

STANDARD INSTALLATION
TOPIC EXCHANGE SERVICE



RELOCATION INFORMATION FOR
AFNORTH -- Brunssum, NL
Netherlands

Information Date
February 18, 2003

Visit the SITES Web Site at
<http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/sites>

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Installation

Installation Overview

Welcome to Regional Headquarters Allied Forces North Europe (AFNORTH). AFNORTH is a NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) installation located in the Province of Limburg, Brunssum city, The Netherlands. AFNORTH is centrally located providing a wide variety of travel. It is in the heart of Northwest Europe. The Netherlands is also known as the balcony of Europe or land without frontiers because of its easy access to several countries. AFNORTH is approximately 290 miles from Paris, France, 50 miles from Cologne (Koln), Germany, and 145 miles from Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

THIS IS NOT A USAF INSTALLATION. THIS IS A NATO INSTALLATION.

HISTORY In 1966, France withdrew from NATO's integrated military structure and forced AFCENT (Allied Forces Central Europe, now AFNORTH) to vacate its headquarters in the town of Fontainbleu, France, a town it had resided in since 1953. During that same time, Limburg closed its coal mines after finding large quantities of natural gas in Groningen. This subsequently led to the offer by the government for NATO to make use of the former Hendrik Mine infrastructure in Brunssum. On 15 March 1967, AFCENT moved into its new home, and on 1 June 1967, the official inauguration ceremony took place in Brunssum.

On 3 March 2000, HQ AFCENT stood down after 47 years, and the new Regional Headquarters Allied Forces North Europe assumed command. The Area of Responsibility covers more than seven million kilometers from the northern tip of Norway to the Alps. This region includes the countries of Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, the United Kingdom, and the sea areas of the Irish Sea, the English Channel, the North Sea, the Norwegian maritime flank and the Baltic Approaches and Sea.

MISSION Regional Command North is in essence the powerhouse of the Alliance in Europe and is the principal force provider in NATO. The Mission of AFNORTH is within the Alliance Strategic Concept and in support of SACEUR's (Supreme Allied Commander Europe) mission, Commander-in-Chief Allied Forces North Europe (CINCNORTH). It contributes to the deterrence of any aggression against NATO, preserves peace, security and

territorial integrity of Alliance member states throughout its Area of Responsibility, and contributes to overall stability beyond NATO's Area of Responsibility by promoting through co-operation and dialogue.

CINCNORTH has prepared to conduct operations and to support and/or reinforce within and between regions, support Article 5 operations throughout the Alliance, and plan, conduct or support expanded roles and missions beyond NATO's Area of Responsibility as directed by SACEUR.

Name: 1. HQ AFNORTH, NATO
Phone: Base operator 0031-455-26-2222
WWW Link: http://www.afnorth.nato.int
Comments: This web site is maintained by the Public Information Office. You can read some Northern Star (newspaper) articles on line. Updated daily with newest information.

Name: CIS Center Baumholder
WWW Link: http://www.baumholder.army.mil/det7/detseven.htm
Comments: This website will get direct information for those individuals who will be assigned to the AFNORTH detachment at Baumholder.

Must Know Items

Mail service: The Military Postal System provides most of the same services as the United States Postal System, but you may expect your mail to take a bit longer to be delivered because of the extra distance it must travel. Priority packages and letter-class mail arrive in approximately 8 days. Magazines and surface mail may take 30-35 days. Express mail service may be purchased for delivery to CONUS in 3 days.

An added benefit of a USAFE assignment is the ability to travel in Europe and see sights that many people spend a lifetime just dreaming about. Your MPF will ensure that members and their families have the appropriate documents to enter the country where they will be assigned. If you wish to travel while assigned in Europe it is recommended (not mandatory) that you and your family acquire tourist passports (at your expense) before coming to Europe. Your tourist passport will ensure you can travel freely to all European countries. A no-fee passport will not allow entry into some European countries.

Must Know Items

--Installation--	
Site Name	AFNORTH -- Brunssum, NL
Last Updated	February 18, 2003
Country	Netherlands
County	
ZIP Code	09703
Service	USAF
Host Command	
Physical Size	
--Phones--	
DSN Country Code	
DSN Number	364-2262/2351
Commercial Country Code	
Commercial Area Code	
Commercial Number	31-455-26-2222
FAX DSN Country Code	
FAX DSN Number	364-2394
FAX Commercial Country Code	
FAX Commercial Area Code	
FAX Commercial Number	31-455-26-2394
--Official Mailing Address--	
Street Line 1	470 ABS-OLC
Street Line 2	Unit 21601
City	
Overseas P.O.	APO AE
ZIP Code	09703
--Deliverable Address--	
Street Line 1	
Street Line 2	
City	
State/Territory	
ZIP Code	
E-Mail	470ABS.DPF@geilenkirchen.af.mil

Geographically Separated or Satellite Locations

<i>Satellite</i>	<i>Command</i>	<i>Distance</i>	<i>Associated Site Name</i>
Baumholder (Camp Aulenbach), Germany	AFNORTH	about 3 hours	AFNORTH -- Brunssum, NL
Tapijn, Maastricht, The Netherlands	AFNORTH	less than 20 miles	AFNORTH -- Brunssum, NL

Nearby Installations (Listed Separately in SITES)

Nearby Installations (Listed separately in SITES)

The 254th Base Support Battalion (BSB) is located in Schinnen, the Netherlands, in the province of Limburg, between Germany and Belgium. AFNORTH is approximately 15- 20 minutes from Schinnen. Basic support for the region is provided

by the 254th BSB. This is where the military shopping community is located i.e., commissary, PX, Sight & Sound.

Geilenkirchen NATO AB is located in Teveren, Germany approximately 5 minutes from AFNORTH during the work week when a back gate is open. Basic support from Geilenkirchen includes Medical, Dental and the Family Support Center.

Nearby Installations (Listed Separately in SITES)

<i>State/Country</i>	<i>Site Name</i>	<i>Service</i>	<i>Distance</i>
Netherlands	Schinnen	USA	less than 10 miles
Germany	Geilenkirchen NATO Air Base	USAF	less than 5 miles

Regulations

Installation Vehicle Registration

To pick-up your vehicle from Schinnen, it **MUST** have state-side car tags or it will **NOT** be released.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 2002

Safety Inspections are required on Privately Owned Vehicles older than three years.

It used to be that safety inspections required for registration of your privately owned vehicle were conducted at AFNORTH. These testing arrangements do not concur with the new Dutch requirements. Therefor effective immediately before you register your car, three years and older, at AFNORTH Vehicle Registration Section it has to be tested for road worthiness by one of the local APK (The Netherlands Legally Obligated Periodical) testing stations. However a state Inspection less than three months old, with equivalent inspection criteria will be accepted for initial registration of a vehicle at AFNORTH. (see attached inspection list) The price for a road worthiness testing is approximately 35 euro for vehicles with a gas engine and 70 euro for vehicles with a diesel engine.

This change to the Dutch vehicle registration means that those assigned to RHQ AFNORTH will be seeing new plates. Officials at AFNORTH in conjunction with the Royal Marechaussee and Dienst Wegverkeer can now go ahead with plans to introduce a randomly chosen Dutch licence plate to replace the current AF plate. The change will, however, take time, and there are a number of technical issues to resolve before this can happen. Force protection is the driving force on this change.

In order to register your vehicle and to obtain an RHQ AFNORTH Motor Vehicle Operator's License, the following requirements must be met:

-APK Road Worthiness Test, as described above.(Vehicle registration will provide a list of local garages)

- Proof of motor vehicle ownership, in the sponsor's name.

- International vehicle insurance (Green Card), bearing your RHQ AFNORTH unit address in The Netherlands. The Green Card must identify the vehicle by the chassis number. The chassis number must be stamped onto the chassis of the vehicle. Allied Support Group Engineering will do this if not done by the manufacturer. If the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) is not on the chassis, engraving of the VIN on the firewall is recommended prior to shipping the vehicle to reduce the steps of your processing.

- State driving license.

- Valid RHQ AFNORTH Identity card.

- A local orientation and written driving test is required.

- Two passport-size personal photographs. The photos are free at vehicle registration for Active duty personnel with a small fee charged for dependents.

- A registration fee (for the number plates, etc.) in local currency.

NOTE: As a married military member, you are allowed to register only two vehicles.

Registration of Aliens

Military members of NATO Forces in The Netherlands are not required to register as aliens. However, spouses and dependent children of non-Dutch personnel must register, even when both

parents are military. Registration may be done at the Permits Office of the RMR (Royal Marchausee Representative) within 8 days of arrival in The Netherlands. Upon completion of registration, a Permit of Residence (Green Card) will be issued. This is the legal authority for non-Dutch nationals to reside in The Netherlands. This permit must be carried at all times. Only in The Netherlands may this be used in place of a passport.

Commonly Referenced Numbers

Schinnen

NOTE: All Prefixes are 046-443 unless otherwise noted

AAFES Main Exchange-----7587
 Civilian Personnel Office-----7329
 Commissary-----7441
 Community Adventure Center-----7292
 Community Bank-----7412
 Dry Cleaners and Alterations-----7258
 Education Center (Treebeek)-----045-563-6041
 Fitness Center-----7561
 Housing Office-----7340
 Housing Supply-----7440
 Legal Office (Treebeek)-----045-563-6204/6207
 Military Police-----7228
 Military Clothing-----4270
 MWR Outdoor Recreation-----7370
 Post Office-----7279
 SATO Travel-----7570
 Thrift Shop-----7436
 Value Added Tax (VAT) Office-----7178
 Vehicle Processing Center-----2851

Geilenkirchen NATO AB, Germany

NOTE: All prefixes are (49)2451-63 unless otherwise noted

Air Force Aid Society-----3791
 Barber and Beauty Shop-----4087
 International Billeting Office-----4962
 Chapel-----2229
 Child Development Center-----2216

US CLINIC all clinic are prefix 492451-99

Behavioral Health 3378
 Central Appointments. 3200
 CHAMPUS/TRICARE 3400
 Claims Office-TRICARE 3400
 Clinic Command Section 3300
 Health and Wellness Center (HAWC) . 3386
 Health Watch Questions 3319
 Immunizations/Allergy 3330
 Laboratory 3379
 Outpatient Records. 3366
 Patient Advocate. 3302
 Pharmacy. 3334
 Physical Exams. 3375
 Primary Care. 3345
 Radiology 3420
 Resource Management Office 3323
 Telephone Consults. 3345
 TRICARE Service Center/Referrals . 3401/3402
 Command Post. 4433
 Customer Service/Orderly Room . . 2204
 Dental Clinic 3535

Dry Cleaners-----6365
 Equal Opportunity -----2219
 Education Center -----2244
 Family Support Center -----3791
 Finance Office (US)-----2218
 Frisbee Club-----4994
 Gymnasium -----4946
 International Dining Hall -----4935
 International Housing Office -----4960
 International Pre-school -----4957
 International Youth Activities (IYA) 4954
 International Military Police -----4819
 Legal Office -----2235
 Library -----4956
 Military Clothing -----2248
 Moral Welfare Activities (MWA) ----4940
 NATEX Auto Service Center -(49)2451-620741
 NATEX Shopping Facilities -(49)2451-62070
 Video Rental------(49)2451-62073
 Officer s Club-----4991
 Pass and Registration -----4866
 Red Cross -----2068
 SATO Office------(49)2451-3414
 Sentry Club-----4997
 Swimming Pool-----4948
 Thrift Shop-----4919
 Transportation Management Office(TMO) 2227

Commonly Referenced Numbers

<i>Name</i>	<i>Commercial</i>	<i>DSN</i>
AFNORTH Finance Office	045-526-2829/3037	-
AFNORTH High School and Middle School	045-527-8260	-
AFNORTH Housing Office	045-526-2017	-
AFNORTH International School	045-527-8251	-
AFNORTH Operator	045-526-2222	-
Alliance Rest International Dining Hall	045-526-2838	-
Arts and Crafts Center	045-526-2454	-
Auto Hobby Shop	045-526-3173	-
Barber and Beauty Shop-AFNORTH	045-526-2957	-
CHAMPUS/TRICARE-GK	(49)2451-99-3400	-
Chapel-AFNORTH	045-526-2940	-
Child Development Center	045-526-2575	-
Community Affairs	045-526-2626	-
Dry Cleaners	045-526-3120	-
Gymnasium	045-526-3171	-
ID Section (US IDs)	045-526-2216	-
International Inn	045-526-3188	-
International Youth Services (IYS)	045-526-3008	-
Library-AFNORTH	045-526-2669	-
Medical Clinic Central Appointments-GK	(49)2451-993200	-
TRICARE Claims-GK	(49)2451-99-3400	-
Theater-Alliance	045-526-2110	-
U. S. Naval Element	011-045-526-3671	-

Major Unit Listing

AFNORTH is not a USAF base. It is a NATO installation. Some of the routine military phrasing and ways in which we communicate are different. It does not operate like your typical Air Force Base. AFNORTH is staffed by military and civilian personnel from several different countries. All units are not manned by Americans. In contacting some

units, it is a strong possibility that you would not get an American. However, since English is the primary NATO language, the person answering the phone will more than likely speak English. If you have any questions regarding sponsorship, they should be directed to the 470th ABS/OL-C (USAF Annex). Also, you may contact the Geilenkirchen Family Support Center for more information.

Major Unit Listing

<i>Unit</i>	<i>Command</i>	<i>Point of Contact</i>	<i>Commercial</i>	<i>DSN</i>	<i>Fax</i>
470th ABS/OL-C (USAF Annex)	USAFE		045-526-2262	364-2262	045-526-2394 (DSN 364-2394)
Family Support Center (Geilenkirchen NATO AB, Germany)	USAFE		(49)-2451-63-3791		(49)2451-65819
National Support Unit 470 ABS (USAF - Geilenkirchen NATO AB, Germany)	USAFE		0049-2451-63-2204	452-3715 ext 255	

Transportation

Getting around Europe has been developed into a fine art. The train and bus systems are extremely elaborate and can usually transport you to any place you are interested in visiting. There are numerous international airports for personal travel, i.e., Brussels, Amsterdam, Dusseldorf, and Frankfurt. This is nice when you have personal travel or family visiting. These travel options will allow you to seek the most competitive prices. If you have any problems setting up your transportation to Brussels as your port of entry have your TMO contact the GK TMO for specific guidelines.

Name: Brussels International Airport (Zaventem)
City: Brussels
Phone: (32)2753-3913
WWW Link: http://www.brusselsairport.be/
Comments: Brussels International Airport is your official point of arrival. In most cases your sponsor will be there to pick you up. Make arrangements prior to your arrival at the airport and clearly communicate with you sponsor. In case of "enroute" changes, always maintain sponsor's telephone numbers at home and duty. Unit e-mail address is also advised.

Name: Dutch train system
WWW Link: http://www.ns.nl/reisplan2.asp
Comments: The train schedule via the Internet in English.

Commissary and Exchange Operations

The Schinnen exchange is divided into three stores. The main store stocks brand name clothing and shoes, cosmetics, stereo and computer equipment. Customer Service and the main cashiers are located on the second floor. Adjacent to the main store is the shoppette, which sells a small line of food, sodas, greeting cards, party supplies and alcoholic beverages. A video rental stand is also located in the shoppette. Located behind the commissary is the PXtra which carries a few auto supplies, toys, small appliances, furniture, baby supplies, as well as lawn and garden materials.

The AAFES Car Care Center is located next to the commissary and carries a limited supply of auto parts, tires and other car care items. Gas can be purchased at the AAFES gas station or bought on the economy by using gas coupons purchased at the AAFES Exchange.

Concessions within the Exchange: Baskin Robbins Ice Cream, Frank's Hotdog Stand.

Adjacent to the Laundry are Burger King and Anthony's Pizza. The Pinpoint Restaurant is located inside the Bowling Center.

Name: Main Exchange
Phone: 046-443-7587
Comments: Closed on Mondays

Name: Pextra
Phone: 046-443-7308
Comments: Closed on Mondays

Name: Shopette
Phone: 046-443-1902

Local Community

Local Community Overview

Brunssum is an old town located in the province of Limburg, The Netherlands. The mining industry which attracted many foreigners who settled here in the period between 1918 and 1966 and AFNORTH's presence changed this quiet parish into an internationally oriented community. Brunssum is well known for its beautiful park in the centrum, with paths for jogging. Its heather and woods stretch out over an area of 200 hectares. Within the town many indoor and outdoor recreational and sports facilities abound. One of the most important ones is the Brunssum public golf course.

The people of Limburg differ in many ways from those of the Northern and Western parts of the Netherlands. They have their own dialect, which differs from the Dutch language spoken in the western part of the country. English, German, and French are widely understood by the majority of The Netherlands population. Most of those native to the region, a Limburger, like parties and local festivities (Carnival, in particular), have a great sense of humor, an impulsive nature, and are easy to get along with. A considerable amount of the local community

speaks good English. The population in Limburg is predominately Roman Catholic.

The Netherlands is densely populated country with over 15 million inhabitants in an area of 12,978 square miles (39,948 square kilometers), an average of 375 people per square kilometer. The densest area of population is the region known as Randstad Holland, in the west of the country, which includes Amsterdam, The Hague, Rotterdam and Utrecht, have an average of 1,000 people per square kilometer. The Netherlands is one of the few nations whose territory has increased and still is increasing through peaceful means. To date, some 550,000 acres of land (polders) have been reclaimed from the sea.

On 1 January 1999, the EURO was introduced as the common currency of 11 out of 15 Member States of the European Union (EU): Germany, France, Italy, Spain, the Netherlands, Belgium, Austria, Portugal, Finland, Ireland and Luxembourg. The new currency will be officially used in The Netherlands in 2002. From that moment on, the Dutch Gulider will be history after 675 years of existence.

Traveling and getting around Europe has been developed to a fine art. The train and bus systems are extremely elaborate and can usually transport you to any place you are interested in visiting. There are numerous large international airports for your personal travel, i.e., Brussels, Amsterdam, Dusseldorf, and Frankfurt. What is nice about this is when you have personal travel or family visiting, all these options for travel will allow you to seek the most competitive prices.

Time Zone Chart

<i>Location</i>	<i>Adjustment for GMT</i>
Pacific	-8
Mountain	-7
Central	-6
Eastern	-5
Greenwich (United Kingdom)	0
Central European (Germany)	1
East Asia (Japan)	9

Climate

The climate is characterized by its variability. Good and bad weather occurs in all seasons. At any time of the year, large changes in temperature can occur

within a few hours. With a cool maritime climate, the humidity varies from 80-90% in the mornings to 40-50% in the afternoons. The climate is influenced by moisture-laden winds from the Atlantic Ocean, sweeping across the lowlands. The average

temperature varies from 1.2 degrees C (34 F) in January to 17 degrees C (63 F) in July and August. However, statistics show that Limburg has 130 hours

more sunshine and less rainfall than the rest of the Netherlands.

Climate

<i>Month</i>	<i>High</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>Humidity</i>	<i>Precipitation</i>
January	39	32		
February	41	31		
March	49	36		
April	56	40		
May	63	46		
June	69	52		
July	71	56		
August	71	55		
September	66	52		
October	58	45		
November	47	39		
December	42	36		

Events Calendar

Please stay in touch with the Geilenkirchen Family Support Center for local cultural/informative programs. The Thursday Morning Coffees are an excellent source to find out what's happening in the area.

A major event in the area is Karneval (similar to Mardi Gras in the New Orleans). This event kicks off at eleven minutes past 1100 on the eleventh day of the eleventh month of the year and builds up on the days immediately preceding Ash Wednesday and Lent. The event is characterized with fancy costumes, large parades, parties and lots of drinking and singing. Each village or community may host a festival, flea market and or music event.

Keukenhof Gardens in Lisse, NL is known throughout the world for their tulips. The gardens are open to the public March - April for the spring bulbs and again in summer. This is a must see item for families.

The immediate and regional areas around the installation-Belgium, Germany and The Netherlands-offer a large variety of entertainment opportunities and tourist attractions. There are also constant events in several city theatres, including world-famous ballet, opera, and symphonies. Additional information about off-duty events and activities, including organized tours, is available at travel agencies in the area. There are also activities and trips planned by base organizations and clubs.

Maastrich, NL On a visit to the Capital of the province of Limburg and the oldest fortified city in The Netherlands, you can walk the 10 kilometers of the remaining old fortified walls. Many gates and ramparts still stand. One of the gates dates from 1229. About 1400 historical monuments door plaques dot the streets and houses that have changed little since the 17th century. Special events are held throughout the year at the MECC. Visit on the last weekend in August and you will find yourself at a Jazz Festival.

Sittard, The Netherlands

In the center of town there are a number of half-timbered houses mixed with old churches. Visit any Thursday morning and you will find a market that offers great shopping. March 19 is the traditional St. Rose procession and attracts thousands of visitors.

Visit Bad Dürkheim the 2nd and 3rd weekend in September and you can enjoy Germany's largest wine fest. The river valleys in Germany are well known for their Wine fests which start in early July and continue through the October.

Name: Aachen
Phone: (49)2414-72301
FAX: (49) 2451-180-2930
E-Mail: mail@aachen-tourist.de
WWW Link: http://www.aachen-tourist.de
Proximity to site: 25 km
Comments: Famous as a spa since Roman times, Aachen has been known as a place of healing and place to convalesce from all manner of illnesses. Historical Aachen was the heart of the Frankish Empire of the 8th and 9th centuries and Charlemagne's capital city. The Aachen Treasury is the home of a very important reliquary, the Loather Cross, the first-ever cross depicting a crucified Christ. With a great pedestrian walking areas, the spa city is complemented by many fountains.

Name: National Mine Museum
City: Valkenburg
Phone: 044-061291
Comments: This is a popular holiday resort area in The Netherlands and lies in an area of gently rolling hillsides. It has many parks and flowers, cafes and fine restaurants. There is a series of caves with grotto chapels, lakes, and even Roman ruins.

Name: Thermae Museum
City: Heerlen
Phone: 0455-764581
Proximity to site: 15 km
Comments: Roman ruins and public bath house.

Name: VVV Maastricht
Phone: 043-325-2121
FAX: 043-321-3746

Name: VVV Sittard
Phone: 0460452-4144

Cultural Attractions

In the tri-border region of NL, GE and BE, there exists a multitude of opportunities for cultural exchange. The Netherlands offers a tourist information bureau named "The VVV" (Vereniging voor Vreemdelingen Verkeer), which is easily located by following the "VVV" signs located in most city centers. The "VVV" provides information on sights, events, concerts, festivals and more. Tip: Newcomers should visit the "VVV" early in their tour and not wait until the middle or end of their tour.

There are many things to do and see and they can't be fully appreciated unless you are aware that they are there.

THE NETHERLANDS TRAVEL DESTINATIONS

AMSTERDAM: Anne Frank's house, Rembrandt's House (with museums, canals, Royal Palace and pancakes)

ARNHEM: WWII museum, Burger's Zoo

BORN: Zoo and park with castle ruins

BRUNSSUM: Hoensbroek Castle, Schutters park (petting zoo, playground, lake with paddle and row boats for rent)

EFTELING: Fairytale park

Eijsden: Eijsden (with French gardens)

Gouda: Cheeses and cheese markets

Heerlen: IKEA, Roman Baths Museum

Hoensbroek: Hoensbroek Castle (Museum, dungeon and cultural center)

Katwijk by the Sea: Seaside town

Kerkrade: Zigfred Line begins, Castle

Kinderdijk: 19 working windmills

Leiden: Oldest University in the Netherlands, Holodome and Holiday Inn with pool

Maargraten: Memorial cemetery to WWII Americans

Madurodam: Miniature city

Meerssen: Basilica

St. Geertruid: Limburg in miniature

Vaals: Drielandenpunt Labyrinth, Highest point in the Netherlands, golf course

Zaanseschan: Old Dutch village, wooden shoes, cheeses, windmills

BELGIUM TRAVEL DESTINATIONS

For DG 47.50 (children under 18 yrs DG 17.50) you can buy a Museum Year card. With the card you can visit more than 400 museums in The Netherlands for free. Ask for more information at your local VVV or museum.

LE ROEUX: Museum, tulip and rose gardens

MARIEMONT: Museum, park, and library

RIXENSART: Located between La Hulpe and Wavre, built in a traditional style made of red bricks and white stone. The gate, the octagonal towers are of late Renaissance and baroque styles. The lack of warlike elements allows many openings to the surrounding formal French gardens. Inside the Castle, furniture dates from the 17th and 18th centuries. The many paintings retrace the history of the Merode-Monfort families; owners of the domain since 1715. Guided visits only; between Easter and the end of September, on Sundays and public holidays.

ROYAL CASTLE OF LAEKEN: North of Brussels, built between 1781 and 1785 by the Duke Albert of Sax-Teschen and the Archduchess Marie-Christine, the Austrian governors of The Netherlands, residence of the King and Queen of Belgium, Albert II and Paola. The greenhouses are open to the public in spring.

BELGIAN FORTERESSES & CITADELS

Beersel Lavaux-Ste-Anne Bouillon Citadel of Namur Cleydael Reinhardstein Counts of Ghent Veves Dinant.

GERMANY TRAVEL DESTINATIONS

Berlin: Capitol of Germany, former divided city-Berlin wall

Bonn: Beethoven's birthplace and museum mile

Bruggen: Schwalm Valley Nature and Animal Park and Castle

Bruhl: Phantasialand amusement park, Junk market (1st Sat. of each month)

This is just a partial listing of sights to see and things to do. An updated listing is available through any local travel offices, VVV and the Army Community Services Relocation/Information and Referral Program at Schinnen.

Recreation Opportunities

The Tri-border area has many recreational areas amusement parks, swim parks and even a 90m slide and wildwater area. This is just a sampling of some of the things available.

THE NETHERLANDS CENTER PARKS

Center Parks offer a variety of facilities and activities for the whole family throughout the year. Center Parks are surrounded by natural countryside; emphasis is laid on preserving the natural environment. Villas in the Parks are all equipped with a kitchen, bedrooms and its own bathroom. Center Parks have a Jacuzzi, solarium, outdoor pool, splash pool, hot whirlpool, swimmers bar and water play garden for the small children. Some parks include other water activities including cascade rapids, wave pool, water slope, waterfall, wild water cave, water slide, and rippling rapids. Some parks include the following sports activities: indoor and outdoor tennis, fitness, archery, squash, badminton, horse riding, aerobics, roller skating, snooker, canoeing, and golf. There is a wide range of shops, bars and restaurants.

Brunssum, Vaals and Geleen all have Golf Courses and are nearby.

Name: De Lommerbergen
City: near Limburg
Phone: 04704-1666
Comments: Bookings must be made in advance.

Name: Het Heijerbos
City: near Limburg
Phone: 08851-96700
Comments: Bookings must be made in advance.

Name: Het Meerdal America
City: near Limburg
Phone: 04764-7272
Comments: Bookings must be made in advance.

Military Related and Civic Organizations

There are 50+ private clubs and organizations in the AFNORTH/GK community for professional and community development. A detailed listing of these organizations as well as the point of contact is available at the FSC on Geilenkirchen.

Name: Information & Referral
Address: Family Support Center
City: Geilenkirchen, APO AE 09104
Phone: (49)2451-63-3791
FAX: (49)2451-65819
E-Mail: 470ABS/DPF@geilenkirchen.af.mil
Proximity to site: at GK

Shopping

Various shopping areas are located throughout Germany, Belgium, and The Netherlands. There are no American style shopping malls located in the area. Two malls within an hour+ drive offer American style services, food courts and name brand stores. One of the malls is located in Oberhausen, Germany and the other is in Antwerp, Belgium. There are several US base exchanges in the the surrounding area in addition to Schinnen. Bitburg and Spangdahlem are approximately two hours away or Kaiserslautern, Ramstein and Rhein-Main are three hours away. Other NATO affiliated bases within the area include Geilenkirchen and Rheindahlem both in Germany and Mons, Belgium. All of which offer shopping opportunities. Mail order catalogs are a good source for shopping while living overseas. Be sure to update your catalogs and include any special catalogs to your mailing list. The FSC at Geilenkirchen maintains a catalog bookrack for your shopping pleasure.

State and Community Social Service Agencies

Contact the Information and Referral office at the FSC for community social service agencies.

Name: Information & Referral Program Manager
Address: Family Support Center
City: Geilenkirchen, APO AE 09104
Phone: (49)2451-63-3791
FAX: (49)2451-65819
E-Mail: 470ABS/DPF@geilenkirchen.af.mil
Proximity to site: at GK

Non-Profit Social Service Agencies

For assistance locating services or a specific organization, contact the Information and Referral Program Manager at the GK Family Support Center. Also see the Schinnen newsletter, Netherlands Herald, for more information.

Name: AFNORTH Ladies' Club
Proximity to site: at AFNORTH
Comments: An international club for spouses of the NATO military members. The American Spouses' Club is a club for spouses of American military members stationed at AFNORTH. All ranks are welcome.

Religious Activities

Most denominations are represented in the local area and at the chapel. Regular Sunday services and sponsor-associated groups are available. Further services and information may be obtained from the Chapel Center, their web site, or Public Information. For on-base activities see "Support Services-Chapel Services".

Name: AFNORTH Chapel
Phone: (31) 45-526-2940
WWW Link: http://www.afnorthchapel.f2s.com
Comments: Numerous activities are available: Bible studies, choirs, women's groups, men's groups, youth groups. Services include Protestant, Catholic, and Gospel.

Name: Geilenkirchen Base Chapel
Address: Bldg 3
City: Geilenkirchen NATO Air Base
DSN Phone: (49)2451-63-2229
Proximity to site: At GK
Comments: Numerous activities are available: Bible studies; children and adult choirs; women, youth, and men's groups; Mops (Mother's of preschoolers). It is not unusual for our American families to become affiliated with churches with their villages.

Community Transportation

Name: Amsterdam (Schiphol) International Airport
City: Amsterdam
Phone: 020-601-0966
Proximity to site: 2 hours

Name: Brussels International Airport (Zaventem)
City: Brussels
Phone: 0032-272-2311
Proximity to site: 1 hour 30 minutes
Comments: Brussels International Airport is the official port of entry for all personnel coming to AFNORTH.

Name: NS Nederlandse Spoorwegen (Netherlands Train)
City: Throughout The Netherlands
Phone: 045-576-1421
Comments: The main Train station is located in Heerlen.

Education

Education Overview

The Education Center you will be in processing with is located on Geilenkirchen NATO AB, Germany. The Geilenkirchen Education Center offers Undergraduate and Graduate Programs through the following Colleges and Universities:

City Colleges of Chicago offers Distance learning courses only for an Associates in Liberal Arts and an Associate of Arts in General Studies.

The University of Maryland offers the following Undergraduate and Graduate Programs:

-Certificates are offered in Management, Computer Science, Women's Studies, Foreign Language, and Accounting.

-Associate Degrees are offered in Management Studies, General Curriculum, Computer studies, Business and Management.

-Baccalaureate Degrees are offered in Psychology, Management Studies, Information Systems Management, History, Government, Computer Studies, Business and Management, Computer and Information Science.

-Graduate Programs include a Master of Science in Management Information Systems and a Master of Arts in Public Administration, Business Administration and Administrative Management are available at other sites in Europe

University of Oklahoma offers Master's Degree in Human Relations, International Relations, and Education with emphasis in Adult and Higher Education.

The Treebeek Education Center also serves the AFNORTH military communities. Field representatives are available from three schools--City Colleges of Chicago - Europe, University of Maryland, and University of Oklahoma.

The Education Centers also have a great deal of information on Distance Learning Education, Independent Study, and External Degrees. Classes are held continuously, except during the Christmas holiday. Registration for classes occurs five times per year. Both Education Centers are a short ten minute drive from the Headquarters building at AFNORTH.

Name: Army Learning Center
Phone: 045-563-6013
DSN Phone: 364-6013
Proximity to site: at Treebeek

Name: Army Testing Office
Phone: 045-563-6013
DSN Phone: 364-6013
Proximity to site: at Treebeek

Name: Community College of the Air Force Advisor
Phone: GK (49) 2451-63-2214
E-Mail: CCAF@geilenkirchen.af.mil
Proximity to site: at GK
Comments: Hours: 9:00 - 1:00 Monday - Thursday

Name: Geilenkirchen Education Center
Phone: (49) 2451-63-2244
E-Mail: educationcenter@geilenkirchen.af.mil
Proximity to site: at GK
Comments: Customer Service Hours: 9:00 - 4:00 Monday - Friday

Name: Treebeek Education Center
Phone: 045-563-6041
DSN Phone: 364-6041
Proximity to site: at Treebeek
Comments: Administrative Hours 8 - 4:30 Monday - Friday

Public and DODDS Schools

The AFNORTH International School was founded in September 1967 and provides education for about 1,250 Children of AFNORTH and other NATO personnel serving at the Headquarters and nearby commands. Four nationalities sponsor the school: Canada, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, and the Federal Republic of Germany. Responsibility for international administration is vested in a Director appointed by the Board of

Governors. Each of the national sections has its own Principal or Head Teacher who is responsible for his/her section to both the Director and to his/her national education authority. The Director and the principals are responsible for fostering the international ethos of the school and for respecting the educational requirements of each nation. This responsibility includes the mandate, as agreed by all four nations, to attempt insofar as possible to standardize instruction, develop common courses, promote language learning, and facilitate intercultural exchanges. The spirit of internationalism and cooperation amongst NATO partners is well represented in the educational setting where NATO children study and learn together.

Name: AFNORTH International School
WWW Link: http://www.afnorthschool.com
Proximity to site: 2 minute walk
Comments: School Hours and Holidays: Normal school hours are from 0900-1400 or from 0900-1530 depending on the age level and the national section to which the students belong. A program of school activities is organised after school hours and special buses are provided. To graduate from AFNORTH Shigh School, you must earn a minimum of 24 crdits in grades 9-12. Most students earn 26-28 credits. In addition, students must earn 20 hours per year of service learning.

Private Schools

Americans can use the local German and Dutch schools. The Kindergarten schools are most frequently used. The older the child the more of the Dutch or German used. A private school listing can be picked up upon arrival. For more information about schools or home schooling, please refer to the record listing or contact the Family Support Center. If you are considering home schooling refer to National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS).

Name: National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS)
Address: 1620 L Street NW
City: Washington, DC 20036
Phone: 1-800-343-9138

Colleges and Universities

Geilenkirchen Education Center has three feild representatives on site with a fourth that schedules visits and appointments. The Treebeek Education Center also has a great deal of information on Distance Learning Education, Independent Study, and External Degrees. Classes continuously, except during the Christmas holiday. Registration for classes occurs five times per year.

Name: City Colleges of Chicago- Europe
Phone: 045-521-4630 at Treebeek, (49) 2451-63-2246 at GK
DSN Phone: 364-6005 at Treebeek
E-Mail: chamilton@tap.de
WWW Link: http://www.cc-e.org
Proximity to site: at Treebeek & at GK
Tuition: \$120 per credit hour
Comments: Hours: at Treebeek 12:00 - 5:00 Monday, Wednesday, Friday at GK 8:00 - 1:00 Monday, Wednesday - Friday

Name: Embry Riddle Aeronautical University
Phone: (49)06565-7297
DSN Phone: 452-7553
E-Mail: erauspan@t-online.de
WWW Link: http://www.embryriddle.edu
Proximity to site: at Spandahlem 2 hours drive or by special appoinment at GK
Comments: Hours: 8:00 - 4:00 Monday - Friday

Name: University of Maryland
Phone: at Treebeek 045-523-1431, at GK (49) 02451-63-2247
DSN Phone: 364-6001at Treebeek
E-Mail: at GK ddavis@fieldrep.ed.umuc.edu
WWW Link: http://www.ed.umuc.edu
Proximity to site: at Treebeek & at GK
Comments: Hours: at Treebeek 9:00 - 4:00 Monday - Friday at GK 9:00 - 4:00 Monday - Friday

Name: University of Oklahoma
Phone: at Treebeek 045-523-1569 & at GK (49)2451-63-2208
DSN Phone: 364-6003 at Treebeek
E-Mail: at GK trsooner@cobweb.nl
WWW Link: http://www.occe.ou.edu
Proximity to site: at Treebeek & at GK
Comments: Hours: 8:30 - 4:30 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday 8:30 - 11:30 Wednesday at GK 10:00 - 2:00 Monday 12:00 - 4:00 Tuesday & Wednesday

Adult or Continuing Education

Various tuition assistance programs are available as well as Pell Grants and student loans. For more information, go to the Education Overview, or call one of the following numbers.

Name: Geilenkirchen Education Office
Address: Bldg 89
City: Geilenkirchen NATO AB
Phone: 0049-2451-63-2244
Proximity to site: 5 miles

Name: Treebeek Education Office
City: Treebeek
Phone: 045-563-6041
Proximity to site: 3 miles
Comments: Information can be obtained concerning GED and CLEP examinations.

Special Education

Information can be obtained from the Exceptional Family Member Program coordinator.

AFNORTH Early Intervention Program: This program is a federally mandated program serving 3-6 year old children with identified special needs in one or more of the following areas: Speech & Language, Motor, Behavioral/social, Cognitive (thinking), and Self-help. The AFNORTH School Program serves the Geilenkirchen and AFNORTH Communities. Services provided include: developmental screenings, developmental information, and resource for parents, full evaluation if appropriate (parent permission required), placement in program if children qualify based on specific eligibility requirements, speech and

language and/or occupational therapy provided by trained therapists when appropriate.

The Early Intervention classroom maintains a schedule similar to a Pre-Kindergarten/Kindergarten classroom; however, emphasis is placed on developing specific language, cognitive, and social skills appropriate to the individual child's needs. Research has shown that early intervention and placement into a program designed to meet the individual's needs can help children avoid serious learning problems when they reach school age. Parents are encouraged to call for more information or to set up a screening appointment at any time by calling the AFNORTH School (see Commonly Referenced Numbers), or the Geilenkirchen Elementary School.

Name: Exceptional Family Member Program
Address: Behavioral Health and Family Advocacy
City: Treebeek
Phone: 045-563-6100
Proximity to site: 3 miles

Name: National Information Center for Children and Youth with Handicaps
City: Washington, D.C. 20013
Phone: 1-800-999-5599

Employment

Employment Overview

As with most overseas assignments, the job search can be very frustrating. A severe national unemployment rate (12%) and language barriers are the toughest factors to overcome in obtaining employment on the local economy. Few people from the AFNORTH community are able to find employment on the local economy. Three military installations - NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen, AFNORTH, Brunssum and Schinnen, provide some employment opportunities.

AAFES is the largest family member employer in the area and has the most turnover. The AAFES Exchange and the Commissary are both located at Schinnen. Other agencies that offer employment opportunities are the NATEX, Non-Appropriated Funds, and Department of Defense Schools (DODDS). NATEX is the NATO equivalent of AAFES and is located on Geilenkirchen. DODDS positions are available at AFNORTH International School in Brunssum. NATO positions are also

available from time to time. They are highly desired because they are currently income tax exempt and pay well but the competition for these positions is severe and multinational.

Prior to your arrival, contact the Family Support Center. They can assist you in establishing your career goal, provide training and education direction and information, assist you in developing or refining resumes and interviewing skills and provide information on job leads, networking opportunities and available resources. Be sure to hand carry all important documents needed for job hunting purposes: all employment records and information, Federal Applications, Resume, Transcripts, licenses, SF-50, certificates, etc.

Good Prospects: Army Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES)

Fair Prospects: NATO Exchange (NATEX), substitute teaching (DODDS & CDC)

Poor Prospects: Professional, technical, and nursing

Federal Civilian Employment for Spouses

Civil Service (GS), NAF, and AAFES positions fall under the umbrella of the Congressionally mandated Military Spouse Preference Program. It is limited to those positions located within the local commute area (currently defined as within a one hour drive from AFNORTH). Military spouse preference provides priority in the employment selection process for a spouse who is relocating as a result of the military spouse's PCS.

Permanent Employment Resources

Spangdalehm is the Servicing Civilian Personnel Office (CPO). The Support Flight Commander's secretary has information and forms available regarding federal employment, both appropriated and non-appropriated funds and serves as a liaison. Be sure to contact this office and the Career Focus Manager at the Family Support Center to obtain information regarding federal jobs.

Community Bank Schinnen, the Netherlands
Telephone: 046-443-7412

The Community Bank has no real personnel office. Hiring is done directly by the local branch manager.

Name: AFNORTH International School
City: Brunssum
Phone: 045-527-8261
Proximity to site: 5-10 minute walk
Comments: Contact the school for information about available positions.

Name: Army Civilian Personnel
Address: Bldg. 4
City: Schinnen
Phone: 046-443-7329
DSN Phone: 360-7329
WWW Link: http://www.chrma.hqusareur.army.mil/
Proximity to site: 10 miles
Comments: Schinnen is primarily a US Army facility that provides support for all US in this tri-border area. It is located approximately 25 km from Geilenkirchen and has access to US appropriated and non-appropriated fund positions.

Name: Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES)
Address: HQ Building
City: Schinnen
Phone: 046-443-5036
Proximity to site: 10 miles
Comments: Manages all AAFES employment at Schinnen

Name: Career Focus/Spouse Employment Program
Address: Bldg. 78
City: Geilenkirchen NATO Air Base
Phone: 02451-63-3791
Proximity to site: 5 miles
Comments: Provides information on local employment opportunities, resume and interview preparation, career exploration, self-assessment, marketing volunteer experience, access to computers and a large resource library.

Name: Department of Defense Dependent Schools (DoDDS)
Address: Personnel Offices, 4040 N. Fairfax Drive
City: Arlington, VA 22203-1634
Comments: All applications for GS employment at DODDS facilities are submitted to and processed through this office. Contract positions are usually handled through the individual school.

Name: Geilenkirchen Civilian Personnel Liaison
Address: Unit 3485, Bldg 87, 470 AFB/CC
City: 09104
Phone: 02451-63-2210
FAX: 02451-65-466
Proximity to site: 5 miles

Name: Geilenkirchen Elementary School
Address: Geilenkirchen NATO AB
Phone: 02451-63-2296
Proximity to site: 5 miles
Comments: Contact the school for information about available positions.

Name: NATO Airborne Early Warning Force E-3A
Address: Postfach 400A
City: Geilenkirchen D-513-0
Phone: 02451-63-2344
Proximity to site: 5 miles
Comments: Job info Center is located in building 8. Information and applications for NATO positions at AFNORTH, Brunssum, the Netherlands, Geilenkirchen and other NATO facilities throughout Europe are available through this office.

Name: North Atlantic Treaty Exchange (NATEX)
Address: Bldg 99 - Canadian Forces Support
City: Geilenkirchen NATO AB
Phone: 49-2451-959306
Proximity to site: 5 miles
Comments: Manages all local area NATEX employment

Temporary Employment Resources

Temporary employment opportunities are also available through the above listed agencies. Contact them or the Career Focus Program Manager at the Family Support Center for further information.

Non-Paid or Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteer work can be very rewarding, in terms of self-satisfaction, career enhancement, and networking. Many family members use their volunteer positions as a means of showing their abilities to potential employers, keeping current on existing skills, learning or improving new skills, and getting to meet people around the base. Opportunities are available at the Post Office, Dental Clinic, Legal Office, American Red Cross, Family Support Center and various other locations throughout the base.

Name: Family Support Center
Address: Bldg 78
City: Geilenkirchen NATO AB
Phone: 02451-63-3791
FAX: 02451-65819
Proximity to site: 5 miles

Chambers of Commerce

Chamber of Commerce services are very different than those stateside. They can offer assistance and guidance on starting your own business and provide you with information regarding American companies doing business in Europe. The Career Focus manager at the Family Support Center has information on these and other topics.

Name: Amerika Haus
City: Frankfurt
Phone: (49)69175656
Proximity to site: 200 km
Comments: Is an assistance center developed in cooperation with the US Dept of Commerce, Chamber of Commerce, and companies doing business in Europe. They can provide information on starting your own business, franchise information, and other valuable material.

Private Sector Employment

If you are currently employed with a company that does business in Europe, and you think they may have a place for you in their overseas locations, make every effort to obtain your transfer before departing the United States. It is much easier to be hired by an American company to work in Europe while you are residing in the US than it is to be hired after you are in Europe. European Economic Union (EU) rules drastically restrict the number of non-EEC employees that can be hired locally. They do not, however, restrict the number of technical, advisory, management or special employees that the company can bring in from the US.

Working on the economy also requires you to obtain a Host-Nation Work Permit. The down side is that once the work permit is stamped in your passport, many of your Status of Forces Agreement Benefits (SOFA) can be lost. You will basically lose any chances that you had for federal employment along with other benefits.

Government Employment

See Permanent Employment Section for information regarding government employment.

Professional or Occupational Licensing

Practical Nurse Certification should be obtained before arriving in Europe.

Registered Nurse Certification should be obtained before arriving in Europe.

Teacher Certification should be obtained before arriving in Europe.

Obtain Child Care certification before arriving in Europe. Positions are sometimes available at the base Child Development Center. Since there is no base housing, operating child care out of your home falls under the jurisdiction of the Dutch government. All licenses, income tax laws and other rules must be complied with. Food, toys, and supplies for business use cannot legally be purchased through the PX or commissary.

Home Business; as with child care, since there is no base housing, operating a business out of your home falls under the jurisdiction of the German or Dutch government. All licenses, income tax laws and other rules must be complied with. Penalties can be severe if you are found to be operating "under the table". Food, toys and supplies for business use cannot be used to deliver products, raw materials, merchandise, etc....intended for resale or business. Contact the base legal office and the Career Focus Program Manager for further details.

Networking Opportunities

Contact the Family Support Center for information on networking opportunities. Several of the programs such as Information and Referral, Newcomer's Orientation, Volunteer program, Surviving Overseas Orientation, the Career Focus Program, and others can provide you with valuable contact and information regarding local area employment. Other networking opportunities exist through the schools, wives clubs, chapel and similar activities.

Medical And Dental

Medical and Dental Overview

The 470th Medical Flight located at Building 208, Geilenkirchen NATO Air Base, Germany provides the following services:

Primary
Care, Immunizations, Obstetrics, Radiology, Gynecology, Laboratory,
Psychology, Pharmacy, Dietetic
Counseling, Optometry (TDY provider every quarter),
Preventive Health Care Maintenance, Orthopedics (TDY provider every quarter),
Well Baby Check-ups, and Behavioral Health.

Personnel in need of care beyond our capability may be referred to local medical facilities or these military facilities in Germany: Bitburg AB, Spangdahlem AB, Ramstein AB, and Landstuhl Army Medical Center near Kaiserslauten. For more information on referrals, please contact the TRICARE Service Center at extension 3400. All referrals will be processed through the TRICARE Service Center. If you receive a referral to any facility, military or civilian please see the TRICARE Service Center prior to leaving the clinic.

*** EMERGENCY SERVICES**

Call 112 in The Netherlands or go to your nearest civilian hospital emergency room. Get the care you need and then let the TRICARE Service Center know as soon as possible. Emergency care will be covered as an authorized visit. Since the military medical clinic does not handle emergency cases (potential loss of life, limb, or eye), all individuals are recommended to locate their nearest hospital.

*** SAME DAY ACUTE APPOINTMENTS**

Please call (0049)2451-99-3200 starting at 0800. A certain number of appointments for acute needs are reserved. If one of these is not available, you will be referred to our TRICARE Service Center and given the option to be seen by one of our Preferred Providers. Active duty may be seen at sick call, check-in time is 0800 - 0810 and doors open at 0750, Monday - Friday. TRICARE access standards for acute (unexpected illness) care state you will be seen within 24 hours, either in the military clinic or by one of our Preferred Providers in the local area. Family members can call the appointment line (extension

3200) and select option 2 for same day acute appointments.

* ROUTINE APPOINTMENTS

Please call (0049)2451-99-3200 beginning at 0800. These appointments are designated for routine health problems and follow up visits on prior care. TRICARE access standards for a routine appointment state you will be seen within seven days.

* SPECIALTY CARE

For non-emergencies, make a routine appointment to be evaluated for the problem. If you need to be seen by a specialist you must first receive a referral from the clinic or one of our Preferred Providers. For routine specialty care you will be seen within four weeks. For acute specialty care you will be seen within 24 hours.

* TELEPHONE CONSULTS

Your Primary Care Manager can often answer questions concerning an ongoing problem. Call (0049)2451-993345 between the hours of 0900 and 1700. Our medical staff will relay your request to the provider. The provider will review your medical records and return your call as soon as possible.

* AFTER HOURS HEALTH CARE ADVICE

- 1) Reference your "Take Care of Yourself" book that is provided free of charge by the medical clinic.
- 2) Use the Personal Health Advisor ("Dial a Nurse")
- 3) A U.S. Clinic health care provider may be contacted for advice concerning an immediate medical problem. This provider will assess your situation as best as can be done over the telephone, and advise you of your options. You may be told what can be done at home to alleviate your problem, you may be advised that your problem can wait for evaluation on the next clinic working day, or you may be advised to seek emergency care in the local area. This service is available weekdays between the hours of 1700 - 0730, on weekends and on NATO holidays. The phone number is (49)171-2609365

* AEROMEDICAL EVACUATION

There are two regularly scheduled C-141 flights every week to Andrews Air Force Base in Maryland from Ramstein for patients requiring extraordinary specialty care in the U.S.

MILITARY DENTAL CARE

The Geilenkirchen Dental Clinic, Building 198 provides routine dental care for active duty personnel and their family members. Routine dental care includes examinations, cleaning and check-ups. Crowns, bridges, and dentures are not considered routine care. Specialty care is very limited.

Name: Dental Clinic
City: Geilenkirchen NATO AB
Phone: 0049-2451-99-3535
Comments: HOURS OF OPERATION: Mon-Tue-Wed-Fri 0800-1700 Thursday 0800-1200 (closed Thursday afternoon) Sick call (M-F) 0800 (Must be present at 0800) Closed on NATO holidays For after hours health care emergency advice call: 0049-171-260-9570

Name: Geilenkirchen Medical Clinic
Address: Geilenkirchen NATO AB, Germany
Phone: 011-49-2451-99-3200 (Appointments)
Proximity to site: Less than 5 miles
Comments: Hours of Operation: Mon-Tue-Wed-Fri 0800-1700 Thursday 0800-1200 (closed Thursday afternoon) Sick call (M-F) 0800-0810 Closed on NATO holidays

Medical Services/Directory - on Installation

There are medical services on AFNORTH. RHQ AFNORTH active duty personnel are encouraged to use the AFNORTH Aid Station for sick call.

HOURS OF OPERATION:

Mon-Fri 0815-1000

Sick call (M-F) 0815-1000 (Sign-in by 0945)

Appointments (Tue only) 1000-1200

Closed on NATO holidays

Medical Services/Directory - on Installation

<i>Clinic</i>	<i>POC</i>	<i>Number</i>
AFNORTH Battalion Aid Station	Dr. Liu	2934

Health Benefits Advisor, Wellness, and CHAMPUS/TRICARE Programs

TRICARE EUROPE

The TRICARE Europe program is modeled on the TRICARE program in the United States, but provides some added services unique to the overseas environment. TRICARE Europe Prime and TRICARE Europe Standard are the two types available in the TRICARE Europe program.

-TRICARE Europe Prime

Active duty members must in-process at the TRICARE Service Center to enroll in TRICARE Europe Prime, at no cost. Members enrolled in TRICARE Europe Prime agree to use the military facility for health care needs. However, for services not provided, the 470th Medical Flight may refer patients to a Preferred Provider and monitor the care received. A Primary Care Manager (a team of providers) is responsible for coordinating all health care needs, both within the military facility and with local providers in the Preferred Provider Network. Normally, there are no deductibles and no cost-shares for authorized medical care delivered by host-nation Preferred Providers in Europe. The TRICARE Service Center is the point of contact for referrals and will provide more information. Emergency care at civilian hospitals is fully covered, however the TRICARE Service Center must be contacted as soon as possible.

-TRICARE Europe Standard

Active duty personnel must in-process to decline enrollment in TRICARE Europe Prime and verify their preference for the TRICARE Europe Standard program. TRICARE Europe Standard members will be subject to annual deductibles and cost share expenses but will be free to choose any local provider for care received. Trilingual staff at the TRICARE Service Center will assist with making appointments with a local provider and answer any questions about coverage and filing claims. TRICARE Europe Standard members may be able to be seen in the military clinic, on a space available basis.

* PERSONAL HEALTH ADVISOR

This is a toll-free, 24-hour medical information line with direct access to a Registered Nurse in the United States. The Personal Health Advisor provides professional answers to your important medical and health questions. Pick up an information package at the TRICARE Service Center. Please note this is not for emergency situations. The phone numbers are:

Germany: 0800-8251600

The Netherlands: 0800-08227944

Belgium: 0800-71920

* TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF/YOUR CHILD PROGRAM

The Geilenkirchen Medical Clinic offers a set of excellent books (free) explaining home health care and training and how to safely use these books to avoid having to see a doctor for common problems. Please come to the Family Practice Clinic, Tricare Service center or the Health and Wellness Center (HAWC) for your free books.

Name: TRICARE
Address: Geilenkirchen NATO AB, Germany
Phone: 011-31-49-2451-99-3400
Proximity to site: Less than 5 miles

Community Hospitals

* HOST-NATION HEALTH CARE

The 470th Medical Fight has established relationships with a select group of providers in the area with verified credentials and who have agreed to file CHAMPUS claims on behalf of patients. The primary civilian hospital is De Wever Hospital in Heerlen, The Netherlands. Location is off the A76 at Ziekenhuis exit, turn right at the stop sign, first right, and up the hill.

Name: De Wever Hospital
City: Heerlen
Phone: 011-31-45-576-6666
Proximity to site: Less than 10 miles

Dental Services/Directory - on Installation

There are no Dental services available on AFNORTH. The Dental Clinic is located on

Geilenkirchen NATO AB, Germany. For more information, go to Medical and Dental Overview.

Family Member Dental Plan

For accessing care, the military or family member must contact the dental clinic during the sponsor's birth month. At that time, an examination will be scheduled. Family members who seek care other than during the sponsor's birth month will be seen on a space available basis. The Delta Dental Plan, available in the United States, is not available in Europe.

Housing

Housing Overview

Service members are required to report to 254th BSB Housing Division within two days after arrival to register for permanent housing and to make appointments for the Housing/TLA newcomers briefing.

Several types of Housing is available.

- 1) Government Leased Quarters (GLQ)
- 2) Government Rental Housing Program (GRHP)
- 3) Private Leased Quarters (PLQ) is housing located anywhere in the South Limburg local community. The renter has a private lease contract and is responsible for basic rent plus utilities with the entitlement of Overseas Housing Allowance. Leases are written in Dutch and translated into English with the assistance of the Schinnen Housing Office. The Schinnen Housing Office provides a housing referral list with many apartments and houses to choose from.
- 4) Unaccompanied Personnel Housing (UPH) is a dormitory facility located in the local Brunssum community for single Air Force personnel with a rank of SrA and below. This facility is new and each room has a kitchen and bathroom area.

Loaner Furnishings are available for up to 90 days until your personal household goods arrive. Loaner furniture consists of beds, tables, chairs, dressers, and couches. Supplemental furnishings such as desks, book cases, lamps, end tables, washers and dryers may be issued to personnel for their entire tour upon Schinnen Housing Office approval.

For information on GLQ and GRHP, go to Government Housing under the Housing category.

Television in The Netherlands

Depending on where you live in The Netherlands, you can receive one AFN signal just by using a small television antenna or a rooftop antenna. AFRTS Satellite Decoders are available for you to rent or purchase at the Schinnen Main Exchange. Once you get moved into your new home, you can find out if you can pick up the signal using an antenna. If you are unable to receive the signal, you may have to look into buying the decoder. AFN shows all the current TV shows, sporting events, etc. Watching live TV shows or sporting events can come at a price. Usually AFN records television programs and then shows them at a convenient time. You have to remember that The Netherlands is in the Central European Time zone and at times can be up to 9 hours ahead of some places in the states. For instance, if you like to watch NFL football on Sunday, AFN shows two games, one at 1900 and the other at 2200. Monday Night Football starts at 0300 Tuesday mornings. You can receive only one AFN channel with a rooftop or television antenna, whereas the AFN Decoder can get up to 4 different AFN channels. If you can receive the signal using a television or rooftop antenna, the picture comes in a little fuzzy, depending on where you live.

When you in-process into your new home, the Housing Office will ask if you would like to receive Dutch Cable TV. Being in The Netherlands is fortunate, Dutch cable TV shows numerous American movies and TV shows in English with subtitles in Dutch. You will also receive BBC One and BBC Two from England. There also is the Discovery Channel, National Geographic, and MTV Europe to name a few. The only way to receive Dutch cable is if you have a multi-system television. These may be purchased at any AAFES store throughout Europe along with multi-system VCR s. If you are going to be here for a couple of years, this probably would be a good investment. Recording Dutch cable can only be done with a multi-system VCR.

Name: Schinnen Housing Division
City: Schinnen
Phone: 046-443-7414
FAX: 046-443-7349
Proximity to site: at Schinnen

Housing Allowances

Housing allowance information is available from the Per Diem, Travel and Transportation Allowance Committee's Web Site:	
Rates and Allowances Home Page	http://www.dtic.mil/perdiem/rateinfo.html
Basic Allowance for Housing	http://www.dtic.mil/perdiem/bah.html
Overseas Housing Allowance	http://www.dtic.mil/perdiem/allooha.html

Government Housing

Government Leased Quarters (GLQ) has specific housing in the South Limburg local community reserved for military families. Rent and utilities are automatically paid for without Overseas Housing Allowance entitlement. There are currently over 300 Government Leased Housing units. These quarters consist of 2, 3, and 4 bedroom single and semi detached houses. These houses are located in Amstenrade, Beek, Neerbeek, Doenrade, Oirsbeek, Heerlen and Langraaf. All are within the AFNORTH school bus route.

Government Rental Housing Program (GRHP) is housing located anywhere in the South Limburg local community. Rent and utilities are automatically paid for without Overseas Housing Allowance entitlement. However, the Schinnen Housing office must approve any house or apartment for this program. Single members are not eligible for this program.

Community Housing

Housing in The Netherlands is built differently from the type of house Americans are used to. Dutch (and German) houses rarely have built in closets, and storage space is often limited or non-existent. Stairways in Dutch houses are often narrow and winding, making larger American style furniture difficult and at times, impossible to move. If you have large furniture, you may want to consider storage for the duration of your tour. Kitchens are usually small so it is advisable that you not bring your 110-Volt appliances, which may take up a lot of valuable space. Schinnen is a full JTR area, which means you can ship your full weight allowance of household goods. For your convenience, the CFMO (Central Furnishings and Management Office) issues free standing closets and major appliances for the duration of your tour. Loan furniture is available for your use while awaiting the arrival of and departure of your personal household goods. Personnel should check in with the housing office as soon as possible after their arrival to best determine their needs.

RHQ AFNORTH families live on the local economy and use private housing arrangements. The International Housing Office also provides assistance in obtaining suitable housing in the local area. They maintain many good contacts with real estate agents and private landlords. It is therefore a good starting point in your search for housing accommodation in the local area. They can also work utilities, tax exemption and register families with local government as required.

However, domestic accommodation for RHQ AFNORTH personnel is also arranged by some National Support Units. This consists of international barrack housing for single and unaccompanied non-commissioned personnel (E-5 or below) and military leased private houses for families.

An NCO hotel is also available for single and unaccompanied NCOs.

Name: International Housing Office
Address: AFNORTH (Bldg. H-603)
City: Brunssum
Phone: 045-526-2135

Utilities

See the Housing Office for information on connections, meter readings, as well as average costs, etc. In the South Limburg area utility costs are averaged for the year based on the previous occupants use. In some towns, one bill covers gas, electricity and water monthly. Trash and cable bills are combined and sent quarterly. Telephone rates are reasonable, you are billed bi-monthly, and in advance for the initial monthly service. A deposit is required of on average 200 Dutch Guilder (DG) or approximately \$100.00. In addition to the flat monthly rate, you are billed for units used, which is based on the number of completed calls and time spent on the line. If you call your next door neighbor 5 times in the day, you are charged the basic rate for connection, plus units, based on the time you spend talking. This can result in an additional \$100.00, or

more added to your bill. Many people elect to use a U.S. telephone calling card to save money on long distance service. Some Dutch long distance providers offer reasonable rates.

The Housing Office can obtain from the utility company the cost of the previous user, enabling you to evaluate your usage. Suggest you take a meter reading after a few months to verify that your monthly payments accurately reflect your use. Bills are averaged throughout the year, if you leave in the winter, you could be surprised by a large bill, it is wise to plan for this early.

The Schinnen VAT (Value Added Tax) office has started a new program in December of 1998. The UTAP (Utility Tax Avoidance Program) is open to all military and authorized civilian members of the US Forces who occupy economy housing living in the Netherlands or who are registered Official Border Crossers.

Cable TV:

Each community has its own cable TV arrangements. Your cable will be different based on where you live. Cable cost is normally part of your rental utility cost.

Relocation Services

Relocation Services Overview

The Relocation Assistance Program (RAP) provides up to date information and services concerning relocating. The Relocation Assistance Program provides INTRO a Newcomer's Orientation, Welcome Packets, SITES (Standard Installation Topic Exchange Services), computerized road maps, Smooth Move, Kids on the Move, base brochures and videos, individualized counseling, and information and referral. The RAP program also monitors the Sponsorship program.

Our INTRO is held monthly for newly arriving personnel and family members. Held on selected Tuesdays of each month at the Family Support Center on Geilenkirchen, this mandatory briefing will orient you to the base and the community. Spouses are highly encouraged to attend.

Exploring Europe: A series of cultural orientation day trips and walking tours. A day trip may include riding the train to the nearby town of Aachen or Maastricht. Both cities offer major tourist attractions. A walking tour of the centrum and market is offered for Sittard in the Netherlands and Geilenkirchen in Germany.

The Loan Locker provides items for the PCSing family while they await the arrival of their household goods. Such items include pots and pans, dish packs, car seats, strollers, iron and board, small kitchen appliances.

The Sponsorship Program Provides information to make newcomers welcome, comfortable and aware of the base and surrounding facilities. Your sponsor will communicate with you by mail, e-mail or phone. They can arrange temporary living quarters, assist in finding a house and provide information on special needs. Their goal is to make your life as stress free as possible. Deciding what to ship is usually the hardest part of moving. Your hold baggage should consist of things needed immediately. These are usually clothes, uniforms, towels and bedding. However, 90% of the relocating families do not choose to have their hold baggage delivered until they move into their house. Temporary quarters usually provide for your basic needs. If you do not hear from your sponsor within a reasonable time frame, take the initiative and e-mail or call the sponsor at his duty station.

Relocation Assistance

Relocation is a challenge! It's never easy to leave family and friends behind. While no move is without its difficulties and annoyances, careful planning can often be the big difference between a routine relocation and financial/emotional hardship. Contact the Relocation Assistance Program, at the base nearest you, as soon as you receive notice of your PCS, for more information on your new duty station.

The Relocation Program at the Geilenkirchen Family Support Center (FSC) offers classes which will introduce you to the culture of The Netherlands, where to go, and what to do.

While you wait for your household goods shipment, the FSC will loan a variety of items to you. Pots, pans, dishes, flatware, microwave, iron, crib, car seat, stroller and other selected items are available FREE OF CHARGE for an initial period of two months, which can be extended if your goods are delayed. Just stop by FSC, Bldg 78.

Please note that linens, pillows and towels ARE NOT available for loan, due to hygiene reasons. Keep this in mind when packing your "unaccompanied baggage".

ARE YOU READY TO LEAVE?

1. Passports in hand?
2. Certificates of Vaccination in hand? (required for Service Member only)
3. Phone numbers left with someone in the States, and carried with you?
4. Insurance on household effects secured?
5. All other insurance in order?
6. Paid up or made arrangements to pay up all local bills?
7. Post Office and regular correspondents notified of Change of Address?
8. Travel claim readily available?
9. Travelers' Checks purchased? (Keep receipts)
10. Travel tickets in order? (Keep tickets including any unused portions)
11. Baggage properly tagged? (Remove all tags/stickers which identify you as a member of the military)
12. Arrangements completed for pets?
13. Reading material - magazines organized?
14. School records packed?
15. Family members Medical and Dental records packed?
16. Current state driver's license and instructions for renewal during tour? (if necessary)
17. Statement from insurance company regarding your accident-free driving record for up to seven years?
18. Registration and other documents concerning automobile shipment?
19. Bank arrangements completed?
20. ID cards current?
21. Several ID Card and Passport Photos on hand for each member of your family?
22. All unaccompanied baggage shipped?
23. Household Goods papers packed?
24. Have you kept your sponsor informed and up-to-date?
25. Have you drawn all necessary advances?
26. Snacks/Entertainment for children?

In Transit Emergencies

No matter how well you have planned your move, emergencies do happen. At the Brussels Airport is a money exchange office, but some of the incoming flights arrive before the office opens. You may want to obtain some Belgian Francs in case you need to make a telephone call, obtain food, etc.

Be sure to keep at least two phone numbers on you in case of an emergency. Make sure the individual can be reached before and after normal duty hours at the number.

In case of an emergency while in transit to AFNORTH contact your sponsor. If your sponsor cannot be reached, contact the unit. The American Red Cross is a great resource and can be located in most major towns. Contact the nearest chapter listed in the local phone directory. The Air Force Aid Society (AFAS) is a non-profit organization that helps the Air Force take care of its own in emergencies through interest-free loans or grants for basic needs. They may be able to help with unforeseen required travel, emergency car repair, lodging, or food. There should be an AFAS office at any Air Force base you may be near. Assistance is also usually available at Army and Navy bases through their relief societies.

Before you leave, make sure you have all important papers with you, not packed with your household goods. Make sure you have important numbers such as your command duty office and your sponsor. Hand carry your sponsor packages that you received from AFNORTH and Geilenkirchen NATO AB. They contain pertinent information that could assist you in case of an emergency. Also bring your SITES booklet with you. Your sponsor should be aware of your arrival date and time and should be notified in case of an emergency while in transit.

Financial Preparedness

For more information on this subject:

PER DIEM Committee

<http://www.dtic.mil/perdiem>

Before you move to The Netherlands, you should sit down and make a general broad review of your entire financial situation and project your future expenses so that you can prepare for all anticipated contingencies. If you are married, your spouse needs to be included in this preparation. If you need any help or assistance, your Family Support Center can provide you with budgeting assistance or financial counseling through its Personal Financial Management Program(PFMP).

Financial preparedness is essential prior to your assignment to AFNORTH. There are several factors which demand more financial planning for the service families here, than to any other Air Force assignment. Making a PCS move is expensive. There are many hidden costs involved in moving, you need to plan for as many as you can.

When you arrive at AFNORTH there are many financial adaptations you will have to make when living with the Dollar/Dutch Guilder exchange.

Please be sure to attend the Newcomers Orientation and Surviving Overseas Orientation given by the Relocation Assistance Program at the Family Support Center at Geilenkirchen NATO AB, Germany. Your sponsor will assist you in setting up this appointment. Please note that pillows and towels ARE NOT available for loan, due to hygiene reasons. Keep this in mind when packing your "unaccompanied baggage".

The web site listed in the Overview Web Address is available for you to calculate your own COLA (Cost of Living Allowance) & OHA (Overseas Housing Allowance).

The moment you receive your PCS orders, you and your family become eligible for a whole range of special pays, allowances, and reimbursements. Not every PCS carries the same entitlements and not all categories of expenses are reimbursable. Be sure to keep all receipts and maintain accurate records in a notebook or ledger (this could help for tax purposes as well).

Advance Pay, Travel Funds and Allowances - The final word has to come from your Finance office, here are some of the categories of assistance related to a PCS:

ADVANCE PAY: You are eligible once you have your orders - an interest free loan of up to three months base pay to help with moving expenses. Advance pay is not automatic - you must apply at the Finance Office. It is normally repaid in 12 monthly installments as a deduction from your paycheck. Exercise extreme caution when taking advantage of advanced pay. Repayment requirements could put you in a financial bind.

MOVING IN HOUSING ALLOWANCE (MIHA): Available exclusively to those moving overseas, where homes may not include the usual amenities (medicine chests and light fixtures, for example) that we take for granted in the States. A MIHA is a one-time payment intended specifically for the purchase of such items. See "Housing Allowances" for current rate - subject to change based on the fluctuation of the exchange rate.

TEMPORARY LODGING ALLOWANCE (TLA): New arrivals at overseas bases qualify for this allowance. TLA is authorized to partially reimburse a member for the more than normal expenses incurred during occupancy of temporary lodgings including expenses of meals when residing in lodgings which do not have facilities for preparing and consuming

meals. Payments are based on rank, family size and other factors, and need not be repaid. ***The member must take billeting receipts and orders to the Housing Office to file for payment.***

Stop by your Finance Office soon regarding these and other possible entitlements. (Also, see "Housing" for information on COLA and Overseas Housing Allowances.)

ECONOMIC REALITIES - Life overseas can prove to be a financial hardship for some, due to limited employment and transportation, increased costs and being so far from home. It is important to plan, save and be aware that many resources you have come to expect in the U.S. are NOT available overseas. They include unemployment, and

*****FOOD STAMPS AND WIC PROGRAMS are NOT available.*****

ELECTRICITY-Because electricity is supplied at 240 volts, 50 Hz (cycles per second) instead of the American 60 Hz (cycles per seconds), electric American time-pieces (such as American clocks and clock-radios) will NOT keep accurate time. Some appliances won't work exactly right or at all. To run American appliances that are not dual voltage/cycle, you will need a transformer, but this will not change the cycles and as a result may shorten the life of large appliance motors (washer, dryers and refrigerators). Because of this large appliances (washer, dryer, refrigerator, stove and large transformers) are available to command sponsored personnel through Housing Supply at Schinnen for the duration of your tour. Smaller appliances such as toasters, irons, stereos and computers should work OK with transformers. American lamps can be easily converted to work on 220 Voltage by replacing a 110 light bulb with a 220 bulb.

*****You Don't need to put your PHONES into Storage!*****

American phones (including answer machines & cordless phones) can be used simply by purchasing an adapter.

American television sets are not compatible with European broadcasting transmitting systems and cannot be converted. You may use your American television to play American VCR tapes or as a monitor for your personal computer.

See also "Support Services" related subject "Family Centers" and "Tips for First Termers" related subject "Money Matters".

Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP)

The Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) is a mandatory enrollment program that works with other military and civilian agencies to provide comprehensive and coordinated medical, educational, housing, community support, and personal services to families with special needs.

An exceptional family member is a family member (child or adult) with any physical, emotional, developmental, or intellectual disability that requires special treatment, therapy, education, training or counseling. If you desire to have your family members accompany you to AFNORTH, you will participate in a screening process to determine if any exceptional medical or educational needs exist. If such needs are identified, the availability of special medical or educational services must be evaluated prior to approval for the PCS due to limited services in this area.

Name: Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP)
City: Treebeek
Phone: 045-563-6100

Household Goods In-Bound Shipments

****There is NO nontemporary storage in The Netherlands.****

Therefore, it is very important that you only ship those items that you absolutely need. If, at the time of delivery you discover that your house will not accommodate all of your property there are NO PROVISIONS to ship that property back to the United States or as mentioned above into nontemporary storage. The Schinnen Furnishings Management Office will provide you with a washer, dryer, and refrigerator for the duration of your tour.

Name: Schinnen - Housing Supply
Address: Furnishings Management Office
Phone: 046-443-7440

Household Goods Out-Bound Shipments

Attend a Smooth Move briefing at your current Family Support Center to get all the information needed to make this a successful move.

Stop at TMO to pick up the booklet, "It's Your Move," which will assist you in preparing your household goods for shipment.

Household Goods Claims

Contact the Traffic Management Office as soon as possible after your arrival. The Transportation Management office needs a telephone number and address where you can be reached. As soon as you have a delivery address for your household goods, provide the information to the transportation office.

On delivery day, protect your assets! Document all damage/loss to your property at the time it is delivered. Before the carrier leaves, make sure he gives you copies of DD Form 1840 (the pink form). On the front, the carrier will list all items damaged or lost that he discovered before he left. Should you find more damaged or lost items after he leaves, use the back side of the form (DD Form 1840R) to annotate all other items. Take your DD Form 1840 to the Claims Office within 70 days of delivery. It is permissible to file more than one DD Form 1840R if you discover loss or damage after you filed the first form, but all DD Forms 1840R must be filed within 70 days. There are some limited exceptions to the 70 day rule, but you shouldn't rely on them for risk of not getting paid for the items reported late.

****NOTE: BEFORE FILLING OUT THE DD FORM 1840R, MAKE SURE YOU REVERSE THE CARBONS**

Submitting a DD Form 1840R to a claims office does NOT constitute filing a claim. In other words, even though you submit a DD Form 1840R within 70 days, you still must file a formal claim within 2 years of the date of delivery of your shipment.

Receipt by the 70th day allows the claims office to dispatch a copy of the DD Form 1840R to the carrier by the 75th day, which is the actual cutoff date for carrier liability, as required by agreement with the carriers.

If you have insurance, you must file a claim with your insurer, before filing a claim with the Air Force. Some insurance companies may require notification within 91 days, while other may allow up to one year. Check your policy carefully because failure to notify your insurance company may result in denial of payment of those items by the insurer and by the Air Force.

A claim is not considered filed until it is received by the claims office. If you mail the claim, make sure you allow plenty of time. You can fax claims, but still must be received within the two years. The two year statute of limitations cannot be waived because it was established by Congress.

The time period for filing the DD Form 1840R and the two year period for filing a claim are completely different things. Filing the DD Form 1840R within the 70 days does not have any effect whatsoever on the two years for filing the claim itself.

You cannot be paid more than \$40,000 per claim. If the value of your household goods is greater than \$40,000, you should obtain insurance to guard against a total loss. By law, the Air Force may not pay more than \$40,000 on any claim.

Depreciation

Under the claims statute you are paid the actual value of an item at the time of its loss. The actual value of an item is the current replacement cost minus depreciation, if any. Current replacement cost takes inflation and local availability into account.

The military services have developed a joint "Depreciation Guide" which lists standard depreciation rates for virtually all categories of personal property. Items that do not decrease in value over time are NOT depreciated.

Get insurance if you want full replacement cost coverage. Check with TMO or your own insurer about whether this type of coverage is available for your particular situation or move.

Name: Treebeek Legal Office
City: Treebeek
Phone: 045-563-6204

Household Goods Weight Allowances

Your weight allowance is the maximum weight that can be moved at government expense under the Joint Federal Travel Regulation (JFTR). You are responsible for staying within this allowance. If the weight exceeds the amount allowed, you must pay all charges connected with the excess amount.

POV In-Bound Shipments

Incoming and outgoing Privately Owned Vehicles (POV) shipments are routed through the vehicle-processing center located at Schinnen, NL. All

personnel assigned to Schinnen and AFNORTH need to pick up or drop off their POV's at the Schinnen processing center.

To pick up your vehicle at Schinnen, you must have the following:

1. one complete set of keys
2. owner's copy of the DD Form 788(POV shipping document)
3. completed AE Form 2681 or a power of attorney if not picked up by owner
4. proof of identity and proof of vehicle registration
5. green insurance card
6. State-side car tags to drive vehicle from Schinnen to AFNORTH registration. Schinnen will NOT release the vehicle without tags. Registration papers will not work.

Document all damage/loss to your privately owned vehicle (POV) on DD Form 788. Notify the claims office at the legal office within 70 days of delivery.

Having a car available immediately after arrival is especially important for personnel assigned to remote sites. To have your car shortly after your arrival, it is necessary to ship the car plenty of time in advance. Average transit times depend on which port the POV is shipped from. Shipping time estimates are; from Bayonne (30 days), Baltimore, Norfolk and Charleston (30 days), New Orleans (45 days), Oakland and Wilmington CA (60 days), Seattle (65 days).

For more information, contact the POV Processing Center.

Name: Schinnen POV Processing Center
City: Schinnen
DSN Phone: 360-7572/7328
WWW Link: http://www.wherismypov.com
Comments: For information and directions, check on inbound vehicles, contact the Vehicle Processing Center for assistance (046-443-2851). After you arrive at your new duty station, you can track the shipment of your vehicle by logging on to the web site above.

POV Out-Bound Shipments

A service member is entitled to ship one privately owned vehicle to or from an overseas location at government expense. All POV's depart and arrive at the vehicle-processing center located at Schinnen.

POV Claims

Name: Geilenkirchen Legal Office
Phone: (49)2451-63-2235
FAX: (49)2451-95-9446
Comments: You have the option to use either Legal Office.

Name: Treebeck Legal Office-Army
City: Treebeck
Phone: 045-663-6204

Pet Boarding/Kennels

The following information does not necessarily reflect the official view of or endorsement by the US Government, the Department of Defense, or the United States Air Force. The following list of kennels provide care and speak English. ****NOTE Some hotel guesthouses may not allow pets. ENSURE YOUR SPONSOR IS AWARE OF YOUR PET AND YOUR NEEDS EARLY.*****

Name: Dierenkliniek Hagenbeck
Address: Heideveldweg 8
City: Heerlen
Phone: 0455-225090

Name: Dierenpension Abdissenbosch
Address: Vogelzankweg 230
City: Langraff
Phone: 0455317217

Name: Dierenpension Abdissenbosch
Address: Hunnecum 9
City: Nuth
Phone: 0455244989

Pet Licensing

Article 73 of the Dutch Health and Welfare Act for Animals provides for the prohibition of the pit bull terrier to be bred, imported into The Netherlands, offered for sale, or to be sold.

Personnel must make arrangements through their travel clerk at their point of departure, and travel at the owner's expense. The only animal currently under quarantine requirements is birds. It is a long and expensive procedure to quarantine an animal. DO NOT fly with a stop via England with pets. England requires a 6-month quarantine for all animals arriving from the United States. Pets must be registered with the Vet Clinic and issued a rabies tag. This service is

free. If a pet bites a human, the pet will be quarantined for 10 days.

Name: Veterinary Clinic
Address: Bldg 505
City: Brunssum
Phone: 045-526-3121
DSN Phone: 360-3121
Comments: Hours of operation: M-F 0800-1200 & 1300-1600 The vet visits the clinic twice monthly, on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The clinic is open by appointment.

Pet Quarantines

There is no quarantine for pets in The Netherlands.

Veterinary Services

Name: AFNORTH Veterinary Services
Phone: 0455-263121
Comments: An appointment is necessary. The vet visits the clinic twice monthly.

Pet Transportation

There is no entitlement for reimbursement of pet transportation. For information or reservations contact TMO. Personnel can make reservation for pet transportation through the military travel agent. Most airlines have a weight dimension limit. The weight of your pet is determined by combined weight: dog plus crate (usually 100 lbs or less). For example, if you have a large dog, your crate may be too large for excess baggage or, the dog and crate may be too heavy. They will also need the breed, sex, and age of pet.

PLEASE NOTE:

Pitbulls are strictly prohibited in The Netherlands. It is illegal to drive in The Netherlands with this breed of dog, even if you are just passing through to get to another country. If you have a pitbull terrier make alternate arrangements, this breed is prohibited.

PCS Reporting Procedures

Once your sponsor has been notified of your arrival date, he/she will schedule an in processing appointment. All incoming personnel (officer/enlisted) will report to the Air Force Annex

(Bldg 307) for in processing. You will need to bring the sealed envelope received from your losing base. It contains all documents necessary for in processing. The Annex will provide you with a checklist to in process with the other agencies. As an Air Force member you will be in processing into the Tri-Border area, which will include Geilenkirchen NATO AB in Germany, Schinnen, and AFNORTH both of The Netherlands.

****YOU MUST REPORT IN UNIFORM FOR THIS APPOINTMENT****

Name: Air Force Annex
Address: AFNORTH (Bldg 307)
City: Brunssum
Phone: 045-526-2262
FAX: 045-526-2394
DSN Phone: 364-2262
DSN FAX: 364-2394

Separation Procedures

Separations are handled by the Separation and Retirement Section of the Military Personnel Flight at Geilenkirchen. Transition Services are available at the Family Support Center. This includes a three day workshop, separate classes on career planning and individual appointments to review resumes and receive benefits information.

Name: Geilenkirchen Family Support Center
Phone: (49)2451-63-3791
FAX: (49)2451-65819

Name: Geilenkirchen Separations/Retirements
Phone: (49)2451-63-2207

Billeting

THIS IS A NATO INSTALLATION Billeting is not available. Please forward a copy of your orders to your sponsor so they can coordinate local lodging.

Unaccompanied PCS

You will receive a "Blue Book" as part of the welcome package for the Family Support Center (FSC). Your sponsor will provide additional information about the local community and your new unit and job. Your sponsor will be responsible for assuring that your unique individual needs are considered in your relocation process. If you are within 60 days of PCSing and have not heard from

your sponsor or received base information, please contact the FSC.

Keep your sponsor informed of your travel arrangements and of any changes that may occur. Visit the FSC at your current location and attend a Smooth Move workshop.

Support Services

Support Services Overview

A range of support services can be found on base or in the local community. Please contact the Information and Referral specialist at the Geilenkirchen Family Support Center for help with finding a specific support group or service.

Family Centers

The Family Support Center (FSC) on Geilenkirchen NATO AB, Germany, provides an array of products and services to active duty, family members, DOD civilians and on a space available basis to retirees and NATO component members. Specific program areas are explained in this section.

All services offered below are located at the FSC. This following is a listing of some of the programs and services available.

Air Force Aid Society (AFAS) provides loans or grants for active duty/retired military members and their families who experience financial emergencies that exceed their resources. The Air Force Society Spouse Tuition Assistance Program (STAP) provides partial tuition assistance to spouses of active duty US Air Force members under the support of the Geilenkirchen Family Support Center. STAP provides up to 50% of unmet tuition costs, or a maximum amount of \$1500 divided by the university's number of terms or semesters per year. The award amount may be less as it is based upon the availability of funds and the number of spouses applying. Funding may be used in conjunction with other financial support with unmet tuition costs defined as total tuition less any other assistance. Aid must be used for on-base programs which award accredited college credit. A Moving Assistance Program is also available.

Information and Referral links individuals and families to resources based on availability and specific needs.

The Family Readiness Program promotes a comprehensive personal readiness program for the active duty member and his/her family. This program educates active duty members and families about pre-deployment preparations, the emotional cycle of deployments, and reunion issues. It provides programs and services that support families of deployed personnel. It also serves as a liaison with other base agencies and base leadership on behalf of families of deployed personnel.

Personal Financial Management Program provides a financial counselor who helps individuals and couples sort through personal finances to develop budgets and financial plans to enable them to be self-sufficient and establish sound financial health. Educational information and workshop cover a wide range of topics to include stocks, bonds, money markets and home purchasing.

The Spouse Employment Program provides up-to-date career information and education for military spouses and family members.

Relocation Assistance Program (RAP) provides information and referral services and programs to incoming and outbound military families through seminars and relocation counseling.

Transition Assistance Program (TAP) assists those leaving the military with a series of seminars, workshops, and individual assistance designed to help with job search and personal and family transition to the civilian world.

Information and Referral

Information and Referral's objective is to link individuals and families with the right source to meet their specific needs. Each family's needs are different. There are many agencies on and off-base who can assist with specific needs.

Name: Information & Referral
Address: Family Support Center Bldg 78
Phone: (49)2451-63-3791
FAX: (49)245165819
Comments: Located on GK

Financial Assistance Programs

Financial guidance is offered at the Family Support Center on Geilenkirchen NATO AB, Germany, to those experiencing money management difficulty or for those who wish to be in control of their finances.

The Personal Financial Management Program Manager will work with you to prepare a personalized budget and spending plan designed to make life easier.

Community Bank and Andrews Federal Credit Union located at Schinnen in The Netherlands, have some types of financial assistance programs available.

Emergency Assistance

Air Force Aid can help with emergencies for food, rent, utilities and vehicle repairs.

American Red Cross aids US military members and families with emergency communication and financial assistance.

Name: Air Force Aid Society
Address: Family Support Center (Bldg 78)
City: Geilenkirchen NATO AB
Phone: 0049-2451-63-3791

Family Advocacy

Provides preventive services for child and spouse abuse in the form of stress management classes and intervention and treatment services. (See Record Listing)

Name: Family Advocacy
Address: Treebeek Community Center
City: Treebeek
Phone: 045-563-6100

Single Member Services

The key to being a part of the AFNORTH community is getting involved. Join a church or synagogue group, sign up for educational courses, get involved in a recreational program, volunteer as a coach, or take part in a special interest group such as a health club.

Make a list of all the activities you participated in before your move: bowling, bridge club, Big Brothers/Sisters, softball.... Add some other activities you would like to try: amateur theater, International Toastmasters, computer classes.... Next contact the Information and Referral specialist at the Geilenkirchen Family Support Center and watch the bulletin boards to find these activities.

What are you waiting for? Get involved today!

Name: BOSS (Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers)
Address: AFNORTH
Phone: 046-443-7370
Comments: Meets the first Friday of every month.

Name: Geilenkirchen Singles Society
Address: Bldg 3- Chapel
Phone: (49)2451-63-2229
Comments: Meetings often center around recreational activities and encourage involvement in the local community. Meeting times vary from month to month.

Support Groups

Name: Information and Referral
Address: Geilenkirchen Family Support Center
Phone: (49)2451-63-3791

Morale, Welfare, and Recreation

AFNORTH offers a wide range of tastes in recreational, sporting and social activities. In addition, a number of concessionaires operate within the headquarters. Since NATO funds are not normally available, the support for these facilities mainly comes from the AFNORTH Community Shop (Shop 2000).

Gymnasium

The gym is located in building 405. It provides free weight, nautilus and physical fitness equipment as well as showers and changing facilities for both men and women. The fitness center has courts for racquetball, handball, and squash. You can get the necessary equipment from the fitness center staff at the main counter. The aerobic fitness room contains cycles, steppers, rowing machines and treadmills. The weight room is located in the gym basement. It contains a full line of bodybuilding equipment designed for both light and heavy workouts enabling you to develop muscles for the entire body. There is a qualified Physical Fitness Training Instructor to assist you with your workout program.

Tennis Courts

There are four all-weather tennis courts, which are adjacent to the swimming pool (Bldg. 602). You may use these courts free of charge. Two courts are for reservation and two are for free play. High fences

for unauthorized entry surround the courts. The key is held at the swimming pool.

Sports Complex

The AFNORTH Sports Complex (often referred to as the Slag Heap), east of AFNORTH has lit fields for soccer, 5-a-side, hockey and rugby. There is a 400-meter track, shower and changing rooms for both men and women. There are high and long jump pits, discus, shot put areas, two softball diamonds, a cricket pitch with nets and a horseshoe pit. There is plenty of space for groups, clubs or individual families to picnic and socialize in the fresh air. Lighting, electrical outlets and tap water are available, as well as a freezer and refrigerators. Playground equipment is available for children, with lots of running space. During the summer, the Sports Complex is the scene of various AFNORTH special events like Summer Fest, Hockey Festival, Rugby 10, and other shows and sports meetings. The following are a partial listing of activities for AFNORTH members participation:

AFNORTH International Boy Scout, Volksmarch Club, Alliance Players (a theater troupe), Boxing, SCUBA Diving Club, Girl Scouts, Golf Society Club, Gun Club, Handball, Weight Training, Historical Society, International Marching Team, Knights Cricket Club, Knights American Football Club, Knights Field Hockey Club, Knights Rugby Club, Knights Squash Club, Ladies Club, Motorcycle Club, Sailing Club, Ski Club, Swim Team, Tennis Club, Underwater Sports Club, and Auto Hobby Shop.

Located in building 102, the Auto Hobby Shop offers a wide variety of tools and equipment for the Do-it-Yourselfer. There is a large selection of general and specialized automotive tools. Computer analyzers are available to perform diagnostic tests. A welding bay is also available. The Hobby Shop is strictly a do-it-yourself workshop. There are experienced mechanics available to assist with various automotive projects.

Library

Located in building 201, the Library provides a reading room, CD-ROM service, cassette, compact disc and book loan service and an extensive Internet Service (World Wide Web) for all AFNORTH personnel and their dependents. There are several magazine and newspaper subscriptions in several languages. The children's library is located just

down the hall from the main library and has many videos and books.

Arts and Crafts Center

The Arts and Crafts Center has three shops under one roof. The shops include wood, ceramics and a framing shop. The ceramic shop offers an informative and required class before you are allowed to use their facility. It will familiarize you with the facility and proper techniques of the art of ceramics. The wood shop is equipped with a wood lathe, numerous sanders, band and jigsaws, drill press, table saws, planers, jointer and miters, and plenty of workbenches. The Frame Shop offers two services: The first is a do-it-yourself framing service and the second is a we-frame-it service. Instructional framing classes are offered every Thursday evening. Reservations are required.

Swimming Pool

The indoor heated swimming pool (41 x 82 feet) is in building 605 adjacent to Shop 2000. All AFNORTH personnel and their dependents at nominal costs may use it. Sauna bath and sun beds are available. The depth of the pool ranges from 1 to 3.80 meters. Next to the large pool is a 6 x 6-meter baby pool with a depth of 20-40 centimeters. Men and women's dressing rooms have showers, lockers and hairdryers. Military members and NATO civilians swim for free during designated times.

Alliance Theater

In building 405 is the Alliance Theater. It seats 365 people, provides showings every Friday and Saturday evenings, with specials and matinees on the weekends. Most local towns have modern cinemas, many of which screen films in English. The cost for admittance to see a film at the Alliance Theater is approximately \$3.50 for adults and \$1.75 for children. The theater can also be reserved for daytime use through Community Activities.

International Inn

The AFNORTH International Inn, building 701, is located one km to the east of AFNORTH. It has a restaurant, and a separate bar facilities, reception rooms for private and official parties. It is open to all members of the AFNORTH community. Adjacent to the International Inn is the General Eisenhower House Hotel. There are 20 double rooms, which can also be let as single rooms, and two VIP suites.

Club 13

Club 13 may be used by all AFNORTH ID cardholders. It is located in building 201 across from the library. It offers a bar and games with free snooker, pool and dart facilities. The club also offers gaming machines and vending machines. On most Friday evenings, live entertainment is provided on the impressive disco set-up, stage and dance floor.

Religious Services

The AFNORTH International Chapel Center is located in building 405. It has three chapels and endeavors to cater for all Christian denominations. Regular Sunday services and sponsor-associated groups are available. Further services may be obtained from the Chapel Center or Public Information Office.

Concessionaires

AFNORTH Community Shop (Shop 2000)

The main shopping center is located on camp adjacent to building 603. The shop offers a range of cigarettes, tobacco, spirits, wine, beer, soft drinks, perfumes, cosmetics, gifts and souvenirs, clothing and casual wear, footwear, leather goods, watches, electronic equipment, stationary, newspapers, coffee, tea, sporting goods, bicycles and biking equipment.

Hairdressing Salon

The salon is located in building 201 and operated by a concessionaire. They provide salon for both men and women. They can provide you a basic regulation haircut to a bit of extra glamour for that special event.

Dry Cleaners and Laundry

The Dry Cleaners are located in the same building as Shop 2000. They offer tailoring, laundry and dry cleaning services Monday through Friday.

****REMEMBER: THIS IS NOT A USAF INSTALLATION****

Chapel Services and Programs

The AFNORTH International Chapel Center has three chapels and endeavors to cater for all denominations. Regular Sunday services and sponsor-associated groups are available.

Name: AFNORTH Chapel Services
Address: AFNORTH (Bldg. H-405)
City: Brunssum
Phone: See comments
Comments: The following nationalities have their own offices: United States: 045-526-2940 British: 045-526-2959/2804 Netherlands: 045-526-3125 German: 045-526-2422/2912 (Protestant) 3101/2909 (Roman Catholic)

Drug and Alcohol

All personnel are expected to refrain from substance abuse and maintain Air Force standards of behavior, performance and discipline consistent with the UCMJ, public law and Air Force Regulations.

Name: Behavioral Health
Address: Treebeek Community Center
City: Treebeek
Phone: 045-563-6100

Legal Assistance

The Army Legal Office at Trebeek provides advice and assistance for personal legal matters such as wills, family law, landlord/tenant problems and consumer matters involving US and/or Dutch law. This office can also prepare notarized powers of attorney, sworn statements, etc. The Claims Office accepts claims from all branches of service or can assist you in the proper procedures for filing your claim. Trial Defense provides legal advice and counsel to soldiers facing court martial, nonjudicial punishment and administrative elimination actions and to those who are suspects under criminal investigations. Treebeek is approximately 4-5 miles from AFNORTH.

The Legal office at Geilenkirchen in Germany is able to provide the such services as Powers of Attorney, Notary, Border Crossing, Preparation of Wills, Household and POV Claims, and the Volunteer Tax Assistance Program. Call to schedule an appointment to file a claim. Notary services are available on a walk-in basis Mon-Fri 0900-1300. Legal Assistance with the attorney and German Liaison is by appointment only. Provides assistance for active duty, married, single and family members.

Name: Geilenkirchen Legal Office
City: Geilenkirchen NATO Air Base
Phone: 0049-2451-63-2235
FAX: 0049-2451-95-9446
DSN Phone: 452-2715 Ext. 269
DSN FAX: N/A

Name: Treebeek Legal Office
City: Brunssum
Phone: 045-563-6204/6207
FAX: 045-563-6205
DSN Phone: 364-6204 (Reception)
DSN FAX: 364-6205
Comments: The Legal Office is mainly U.S. Army personnel, but also assists U.S. Air Force personnel with any legal matters.

Child And Teen Services

Child and Teen Services Overview

Child care needs pose a real challenge for parents living in The Netherlands. Child care centers are not as numerous here as they are in the United States; therefore, locating child care can sometimes be a frustrating experience. AFNORTH Child Development Center (CDC) and the International Youth Services offer a full range of care.

New Parent Program

New parent education and support are offered through the Family Support Center, Clinic and American Red Cross. Individual consultation is also available. Refer to the Family Support Center, Information & Referral for more information.

Child Care Programs - on Installation

The AFNORTH Child Development Center (CDC) is located in Brunssum and within walking distance from the AFNORTH main gate.

U.S. Army's Child Development Services Regulation AR 608-10 regulation outlines their basic operations and policies. They are regularly inspected by fire, safety and health officials who help us keep the facility safe for your child.

The program goals are : To be aware of each child's abilities and needs, and to plan an individualized program including social and intellectual stimulation. To provide a safe and healthy learning environment.

To help each child experience the joy of learning through discovery.

To provide opportunities in which children can experience success.

To help children develop their understanding and use of experiences.

To promote physical development and skills through movement experiences.

To help children develop the ability to work and play with others.

Administrative Information: The CDC is open Monday Friday from 0700 - 1800. The CDC and School Age Services (SAS) observe all AFNORTH International holidays. They are open on all National holidays. The following is a list of days the CDC will be closed throughout the year

January	New Year's Day
February/March	Carnival Monday
April	Good Friday, Easter Monday
May	The Queen s Birthday, Liberation Day
June	Ascension Day, Whit Monday
*December	Christmas Eve, Christmas Day,
Boxing Day	

*AFNORTH facilities are usually closed the week between Christmas and New Years, at the commander's discretion.

Programs: The Full Day Program is a developmental program for children needing 5 hours or more of care on a regular basis. The Hourly Care Program provides Short term intermittent care not exceeding 25 hours a week. The Part Day Program offers three and four year old children an educational experience on a Monday-Wednesday-Friday schedule for three-hour sessions. The Before/After School Program is offered to children from 6 to 10 years of age during the school year. Children may attend before school only, after school only, or before and after school. When school is closed, children may attend the program anytime between 0700 and 1800 at no additional cost. The Summer Camp is a special program offering activities for 6 to 10 year olds while school is out during the summer. The specially trained camp counselors plan many field trips and special activities for the youth. Youth may attend the full day program between 0700 and 1800 or the camp only between 0900 and 1600.

Eligibility: Any child between 6 weeks and 10 years of age who is a family member of a U.S. or NATO military member or a U.S. or NATO civilian is eligible to attend. The CDC will provide care to children between 6 weeks and 6 years and the SAS

program will provide care for children from 6 years through 10 years.

Registration:

1. To register your child, you will need to bring the following documents to the Central Registration Office: a) Immunization records b) Names and phone numbers of three emergency designees c) Valid AFNORTH, U.S., or NATO ID card

2. A registration fee of \$15 per child or \$35 per family must be paid at time of registration.

3. All required paperwork must be fully completed. Any changes in address, telephone and emergency contacts must be reported immediately.

4. Within 30 days of placement, a complete physical and copy of the Family Care Plan (for single and dual military only) must be turned in to the CDC.

Withdrawal Policy: To withdraw a child from any of the programs, a written notification must be given to the CDC operations clerk two weeks prior to the last day of care. If a child is withdrawn without notification, fees for the two weeks will be charged.

Waiting List Policy:In accordance with AR 608-10, the programs must always ensure mandatory adult/child ratios and maximum capacity levels are maintained. When all child spaces are filled, a waiting list will be kept for each age group. Parents wishing to place their child on the waiting list must complete a registration card. The other paperwork and the registration fee will not be required until the child is actually placed in a program.

When a space becomes vacant, parents will be contacted at the phone number provided. Each person will be called three times before moving on to the next individual on the list. Anyone who can not be reached will remain in the same place, but will not be called again until the next opening.

Patrons will be placed on a waiting list on a priority basis as follows:

- U.S. Active duty military single parents
- U.S. Active duty dual military parents
- U.S. Active duty military with civilian employed spouse
- U.S. DOD civilian single parents
- U.S. DOD civilian dual employed parents
- U.S. Active duty military and spouse not employed outside the home

- NATO International Active duty military single parents
- NATO International Active duty dual military parents
- NATO International Active duty military with civilian employed spouse
- Retired U.S. military and DOD civilians

The program insures that children are offered food at least every 3 hours while on our care. Breakfast, Morning Snack, Lunch, Afternoon Snack, and Late Afternoon Snack are served. If you wish for your child to receive these meals, it is essential that your children arrive by the scheduled time. If children are not there at these times, they cannot be served a meal or snack. Parents are always welcome to join their child for a meal.

In accordance with the Military Childcare Act (MCCA) of 1989, U.S. Army Europe (USAREUR) has established a fee policy for full day, part day, before and after school, and hourly care programs. These fees are on a sliding scale based on the combined income of both parents. This sliding scale allows a Corporal and a Captain to pay the same percentage of their income for childcare.

Monthly fees are based on a 21-day month. Weekends, holidays, and five miscellaneous days (sick days, inclement weather days, etc.) were deducted before establishing the rate. Parents will not be charged for the week that our program is closed between Christmas and New Year. There is an additional 10% discount for the second child and any additional child in a family.

Prior to your child's admission, you must provide the Center with his/her immunization records. Your child's immunization schedule must be up to date as required by your country. It is strongly recommended that all children under age 5 years receive HIB (Hoemophilus b Conjugate) even if it is not a country requirement. Any child that is not immunized would need to be excluded from care if there is a case of Hoemophilus b disease in the community center. It is also required that a copy of your child's most recent physical examination be on file. If one is not available from the past year, a 30-day grace period will be allowed.

Name: AFNORTH Child Development Center (CDC)
City: Brunssum
Phone: 045-526-2575
FAX: 045-525-2402
DSN Phone: N/A
DSN FAX: N/A
Comments: The AFNORTH CDC is within walking distance from the AFNORTH main gate.

Child Care Programs - Community

Child care off the installation is normally through private contact. Some family members offer child care services in their home. These homes are not licensed facilities.

Things To Do - Clubs and Social

Youth activities normally found at Youth Centers in the US are available at the AFNORTH International Youth Services. For information concerning the Girl and Boy Scouts contact the Geilenkirchen Family Support Center. For a list of activities see Things to Do- Recreation and Sports.

Things To Do - Recreation and Sports

AFNORTH International Youth Services offers dances, games, tours, school break activities, and summer camps. Classes are available in martial arts, arts and craft, ballet, and tap. Sport sponsored activities include soccer, basketball, bowling, football, and baseball.

Schools

For more information on this subject:
AFNORTH International School
<http://www.afnorthschool.com>

The International School began in September 1967 and provides education for about 1,250 children of AFNORTH and other NATO personnel serving at the Headquarters and the adjacent areas. Four nationalities sponsor the school: United States, Canada, the United Kingdom and the Federal Republic of Germany. Responsibility for international administration is vested in a director appointed by the Board of Governors. Each of the national sections has its own principal/head-teacher who is responsible for his/her section to both the director and to his/her national education authority.

Normal school hours are from 0900-1400 or from 0900-1530 depending on the age level and the national section to which the students belong. A program of school activities is organized after school hours and special buses are provided.

The school year runs from mid-August to late June, with a two-week holiday at Christmas and Easter, an autumn holiday week in October and a winter break in February.

For further information about AFNORTH International School, you may visit their web site located in the Overview Web Address.

Name: AFNORTH International School (U.S. Elementary)
City: Brunssum
Phone: 045-527-8251
FAX: 045-527-8246
DSN Phone: N/A
DSN FAX: N/A
WWW Link: http://www.afnorthschool.com

Name: AFNORTH International School (U.S. High School)
City: Brunssum
Phone: 045-527-8261
FAX: 045-527-8236
DSN Phone: N/A
DSN FAX: N/A
WWW Link: http://www.afnorthschool.com

School Age Care

The School Age Services (SAS) before and after school care is for children from 5 to 10 years of age. The staff is dedicated to providing quality programs that enhance your child's intellectual, physical, emotional, and social growth. SAS is located in the same building as the Child Development Center. It is within walking distance from the AFNORTH main gate.

Name: School Age Services (SAS)
City: Brunssum
Phone: 045-526-2575
FAX: 045-525-2402

Religious Programs

Various programs exist at the AFNORTH Chapel. Visit the web site for complete up-to-date information.

Name: AFNORTH Chapel
Phone: 045-526-2940
WWW Link: http://www.afnorthchapel.f2s.com

Special Events

See Events under Installation.

Name: AFNORTH Teen Center (ages 13-19)
Phone: 0455-263004
Comments: A short five minute walk from the school. The facility is opened after school and Saturday. Nintendo, pool, basketball, foosball, and satellite TV are available. Dances and special events are planned and well announced throughout the year.

Sponsorship and Support

Name: Relocation Assistance Program
Address: Geilenkirchen Family Support Center 470 ABS/DPF, Unit 3485
City: 09104
Phone: (49)2451-63-3791
FAX: (49)2451-65819
E-Mail: 470ABS/DPF@geilenkirchen.af.mil
Comments: A sponsorship program for children 7 - 12 years old is offered. Send your child's name, address, age, and interests to the above address. A child will be selected to provide information and answer questions.

Youth Employment

Youth Employment opportunities are similar to adult opportunities (see employment). However, in addition to AAFES, NATEX, GS, and NAF jobs, Geilenkirchen NATO AB(GK) and Schinnen have a very popular Summer Hire Program sponsored by civilian personnel. This program gives young adults 14 yrs and older the opportunity to work in a variety of locations both at GK and Schinnen. An effort is made to place all who are interested and students can experience many different work environments. See your FSC Career Focus Program manager for more details.

Youth Centers

The International Youth Services (IYS) promotes activities for the youth of AFNORTH (11-19 years). Activities include four major areas:

Social and recreational, Fitness and sports activities, Multi-purpose center, and Teen programs.

Youth Sports Programs

The International Youth Service Sports Program appeals to all AFNORTH children and teenagers (5-19 years). The sports include basketball, American football, soccer, swimming lessons, bowling, snow skiing lessons, ballet, gymnastics, etc. Additionally, parents find that volunteering to help with IYS sports activities is a good way to meet people.

Name: International Youth Services (IYS)
Address: AFNORTH (Bldg. H-603)
City: Brunssum
Phone: 045-526-3033

For Teens Only

Living in The Netherlands can be a fun and exciting adventure. There are many places to visit and see. There's always a park to visit, a concert to attend, or a new restaurant to try. The Teen Center has special events throughout the year. Stop by the Center for the current schedule.

Name: AFNORTH Teen Center
DSN FAX: 0455-263004

Survival Tips For First Termers

Survival Tips for First Termers Overview

Being in the Air Force presents many challenges for families. It is not always easy to balance military duties, personal and financial obligations, while attending to the needs and wants of immediate and extended family. This requires a great deal of planning. Below are survival tips to help you and your family as you plan the challenge of the military lifestyle. Before you move it is very important that you contact your nearest losing Family Support Center and register to attend their Smooth Move Briefing. This program will provide information to help you make your transition a lot smoother.

NOTE: If you get married before you PCS, you MUST inform your losing unit commander and follow the procedures exactly as you are given them. The military WILL NOT PAY for travel and housing of your spouse if you do not follow proper

procedures. Start saving now. Any PSC move is going to cost money.

Maintain regular contact with your sponsor. They will be able to answer questions about AFNORTH and the community. Your sponsor will send you specific information on your new duty location. If you have not received a sponsor 30 days prior to your expected arrival date, please have the relocation center at your current base contact the Geilenkirchen FSC. This situation may arise more often if you are presently in your technical training school. Because of the short notice, we may not have time to get your base welcome package to your duty station and a home address would greatly expedite the situation.

Contact the Relocation Assistance Program at your losing base. They will be able to provide you with valuable information about the AFNORTH and the Geilenkirchen area. They may have base brochures and SITES for your review. Also, contact the gaining base for more specific information about the base and local area.

Fax a copy of your orders to your sponsor so that they may obtain a PO box for you. Leave your new address with your post office and old unit. Send out change of address cards.

Gather all-important papers and keep them close by during the move. Go through your household goods and get rid of all the things you no longer want or need. Remember, if you are over your weight allowance, you'll have to pay the additional shipping.

Notify your sponsor ahead of time of your arrival date and time. They can obtain temporary living arrangements for you. Tell your sponsor how many will be traveling including pets.

Before You Move

If you've never been to Europe, think twice about packing all those 110 volt US appliances. Remember that most electrical appliances will not work here due to the electrical current (220 volt/50 Hz). Converting your 110 volt US appliances will require an outlay of money for transformers and conversion adaptors and plugs, or you may choose to purchase some new appliances. These items can be purchased used from people leaving the area or new from the PX. Second-hand transformers can cost from \$15 to \$100 and may be easiest found during the summer, the largest personnel turnover period.

All Government and Privately owned quarters have 220-volt power. If you bring any small appliances or anything that requires 110 volts of power, you will need transformers. The type of transformers you'll need is available at through AAFES at Schinnen. There are several different transformers that can range from 75 watts to 2000 watts. There are a few that are over 2000 watts. Which one you buy is determined by the amount of watts you need. On most American plug-in appliances or other items, it will say how many watts are needed to run. If you plug an item into a transformer and that item requires more watts than that transformer can give, the transformer fuse will blow. Fuses are available at the Schinnen Exchange. It is better to use a transformer with an item that will require less wattage than what the transformer can put out. DO NOT plug in any type 110 volt time keeping item into a transformer. IT WILL NOT keep the correct time. There are 220-volt clocks and battery clocks available at AFFES and the local community.

It is very important that you contact your nearest losing Family Support Center and register to attend their Smooth Move Briefing. This program will provide information to help you make your transition a lot smoother. At the Family Center they may have a copy of the "Bue Book" and the video for GK. NOTE: If you get married before you PCS, you MUST inform your losing unit commander and follow the procedures exactly as you are given them. The military WILL NOT PAY for travel and housing of your spouse if you do not follow proper procedures. Start saving now. Any PSC move is going to cost money.

Request a sponsor and maintain regular contact with them. They will be able to answer questions about the base and the area to where you'll be moving. Your sponsor will send you specific information on your duty. If you have not received a sponsor thirty days prior to arrival, please have the relocation center at your current base contact the Geilenkirchen FSC. This situation may arise more often if you are presently in your technical training school. Because of the short notice, we may not have time to get your base welcome package to your duty station and a home address would greatly expedite the situation.

Fax a copy of your orders to your sponsor so that they may obtain a PO box for you. Leave your new address with your post office and old unit. Send out change of address cards. Gather all important papers and keep them close by during the move.

Go through your household goods and get rid of all the things you no longer want or need. Remember, if you are over your weight allowance, you'll have to pay the additional shipping.

Notify your sponsor ahead of time of your arrival date and time. They can obtain temporary living arrangements for you. Tell them if you will be traveling alone or with family and/or pets.

After You Arrive

After your arrival at Brussels Airport in Brussels, Belgium your sponsor will meet you in the area immediately after clearing customs, as long as you have made prior arrangements with him or her. In the event no one is there, you should have with you the telephone numbers of your sponsor and your gaining unit. Call for assistance. Your sponsor will take you to your temporary living quarters.

Within the first 48 hours of your arrival, visit the Relocation Assistance staff at the Family Support Center at Geilenkirchen for community information and assistance. They have maps that will prove to be very valuable as you look for housing. Attend INTRO and become familiar with programs and services offered at the base. The FSC also has a loan locker if you need temporary household goods.

Contact the housing office at Schinnen. This briefing should be accomplished within the first 48 hours. Notify transportation of your arrival and check on household good status. Let your loved ones know you have arrived safely.

Reporting Procedures

Once your sponsor has been notified of your arrival date, he/she will schedule an in processing appointment. All incoming personnel (officer/enlisted) will report to the Air Force Annex (Bldg H-307) for in processing. You will need to bring the sealed envelope received from your losing base. It contains all documents necessary for in processing. The Annex will provide you with a checklist to in process with the other agencies. As an Air Force member you will be in processing into the Tri-Border area, which will include Geilenkirchen NATO AB in Germany, Schinnen, and AFNORTH both of The Netherlands.

****YOU MUST REPORT IN UNIFORM FOR THIS APPOINTMENT****

Travel Planning

Concurrent travel, meaning your family travels with you, is approved for AFNORTH.

SATO (official travel) will make flight arrangements for you and any family members authorized on your orders.

Your current Military Personnel Flight (MPF) will assist you in obtaining official passports for anyone authorized to travel with you (on your orders). If you can afford it, tourist passports are preferred by most for personal traveling overseas. You can always wait until after you arrive to get the tourist passports.

Keep receipts for any lodging or transportation so you can file them with your travel voucher.

Reservations for temporary lodging should be made as soon as possible. Your sponsor can do this, but don't forget to confirm reservations and travel plans with your sponsor at least three days before your expected arrival.

When traveling please ensure that you wear civilian clothes. Keep your sponsor informed of any changes.

Vehicle Ownership

Military members are allowed to ship one POV (Privately Owned Vehicle) at the government's expense. Accompanied members are allowed to register two POVs. POVs must be registered with the POV office.

You will be able to buy tax-free gas coupons. They are sold at the NATEX Auto Shop on base and on the second floor of the Schinnen Main Exchange. They are good at Esso Service Stations in Germany and the Netherlands. On some German autobahns, there are no Esso Service Stations. In that case they may be redeemed at the BP Stations. You're limited in the amount you can purchase each month. You can also purchase gas at the NATEX gas station on Geilenkirchen or at the Schinnen Exchange gas station.

Housing and Billeting

Getting settled and finding a place to live will be the highest priority once you've arrived. There are several agencies at AFNORTH to make settling in a lot easier and help you find just the right place to live.

OFF-BASE HOUSING

All military and DOD civilian personnel must process through the Schinnen housing office and attend a housing briefing prior to making any commitment to rent or buy economy housing.

When a house is found, contracts are completed and returned to the housing office for review. Upon moving in, the housing office completes all paperwork necessary to start your OHA and utilities allowance.

LOANER APPLIANCES and temporary loaner furniture is available for your use. Due to limited space and voltage/cycle differences, it is NOT recommended that you ship your major appliances. Housing Supply Office at Schinnen will provide you a washer/dryer, refrigerator, stove, two transformers (when available) and wardrobes for the duration of your tour. Due to delays in most household goods shipments, temporary loaner furniture is provided until your household goods arrive, it consists of dining table with chairs, sofa/easy chair, coffee/end tables, beds, and dressers. Family Services offers temporary loans of microwaves, dishes, cutlery, pots/pans, irons & ironing boards, small electrical appliances, highchairs, strollers, and car seats. So plan your "unaccompanied" shipment accordingly.

(See also major topic "Housing".)

Money Matters

So, if you are reading this section, you must be getting ready to come to our area. There are a few things that you can do to lessen the shock and aid in the transition.

One of the reasons many people feel swamped in money matters is that they fail to plan for what may happen. How many hours have you spent scribbling amounts for rent, utilities, debts, and food on a napkin, the back of an envelope, or the first page of a neatly ruled ledger? Most of us try at some point to "nail down our expenses." Writing figures on scraps of paper demonstrates the fragmentation of thinking that accompanies financial dysfunction. Keeping our minds crammed full of due dates, payment schedules, minimum payments, and budget allowances doesn't give us the clarity we need for true change.

The bottom line for money behavior is clarity:

- * Knowing what your income is.
- * Knowing where your money goes.

* Knowing the balance in your checkbook.

* Knowing if your checkbook balance agrees with your bank statement.

* Knowing how much you owe and what it's costing you in interest.

In other words, write down your total income after expenses. Try to set aside some money for unexpected occurrences and keep a record of where you are spending your money.

Other areas of your move need to be arranged, your household goods, your car, and financial move also needs to be adjusted. Where financial matters are concerned, "People don't plan to fail, they just fail to plan."

ALL FIRST TERMERS are required to have a PFMP brief. When you attend INTRO you will be scheduled to attend a class just for First Termers. First Termers are defined as all military personnel, officer and enlisted, that have been in the military four years or less and all E4s and below. This class covers dealing in local currency, special local bills and payments, maintaining a budget, savings programs, and money management. Spouses are highly encouraged to attend.

Banking long distance is fraught with potential disasters. Setting up a new banking account locally is recommended. There are banks and credit union in the area. You could use your old bank for savings or investment accounts, but you should maintain your household budget locally so you can take care of any problems with pay, bills, account status, etc., by sitting down and talking to someone who can help solve your problems.

Before you move, make a general review of your entire financial situation and project your future expenses so you can prepare for all anticipated contingencies. If you are married, your spouse needs to be included in this preparation. If you'd like help, contact your Family Support Center's Personal Financial Program Manager.

Moving to The Netherlands can require a cash reserve of as much as \$2,000 to insure all associated relocation expenses after your arrival can be met.

Prepare a family balance sheet. List your assets and liabilities.

Assets include cash in checking and savings, cash value of life insurance policy, Market Value (MV) of stocks, bonds and mutual funds, and MV of large items such as a home, cars, boat, furniture, etc.

Liabilities include credit card balances, any taxes owed, and any outstanding loans (autos, home, boat, furniture, etc).

Subtract your liabilities from your assets to get your Net Worth.

This list can be used for accountability of household items when movers arrive, i.e. furniture, household goods. Develop a comprehensive projected budget, until you move, that establishes living expenses; enabling you to cut down expenses and make monetary adjustments until you leave.

Many of today's families rely on two incomes to make ends meet. If a second income is needed, visit the Career Focus Manager at the Family Support Center for help in your job search. Do not count on having a job. Most jobs are low paying and there are many applications for each vacancy.

Also see "Financial Preparedness" related subject under major topic "Relocation Services"; "Family Center" related subject under major topic "Support Services"; and "Must Know" related subject of "Installation".

Name: Personal Financial Management Program (PFMP)
Address: Geilenkirchen Family Support Center, Bldg 78
Phone: (49)2451-63-3791
FAX: (49)2451-65819
Comments: The PFMP offers information, education, and personal financial counseling to help every family and/or military member meet their financial obligations and goals. Counseling is available, by appointment, to assist with budgeting, checkbook maintenance, and credit management. This program offers long-term solutions to financial problems.

At A Glance

Facility/Services Summary

<i>--Officer and Enlisted Population--</i>			
Active Duty Officer	34	Active Duty Warrant Officer	0
Guard Reserve Officer	0	Guard Reserve Warrant Officer	0
Retired (Officer and Enlisted)	354	Foreign Service Officers	
Active Duty Enlisted	91	Guard Reserve Enlisted	0
Foreign Service Enlisted			
<i>--Civilians--</i>			
Civil Service	0	Wage Grade	0
Non-Appropriated Funds		Family Members -on and off Installation-	
<i>--Family Services--</i>			
Family Centers	0	Teen Centers	1
Child Day Care	1	Family Child Care Certified Homes	0
Total Child Capacity		Total Child Capacity	0
Average Waiting List Time -Months-			
<i>--Other Services--</i>			
Commissary	0	Exchanges	0
Shoppettes	1	Gas Stations	0
Movie Theaters	1	Banks and Credit Unions	0
McDonalds/Burger King	0	Other i.e. Exchange concessionaires	0

Housing Summary

<i>--Officer Housing--</i>			
Senior Officer Waiting	0	Senior Officer 3 Bed Room	0
Senior Officer 4 Bed Room	0	Senior Officer Other	0
Company Grade Officer Waiting	0	Company Grade Officer 2 Bed Room	0
Company Grade Officer 3 Bed Room	0	Company Grade Officer 4 Bed Room	0
Company Grade Officer Other	0	BOQ	0
<i>--Enlisted Housing--</i>			
Senior Enlisted Waiting	0	Senior Enlisted 3 Bed Room	0
Senior Enlisted 4 Bed Room	0	Senior Enlisted Other	0
Enlisted Waiting	0	Enlisted 2 Bed Room	0
Enlisted 3 Bed Room	0	Enlisted Other	0
BEQ	0	Transient Lodging Facilities	

Education Summary

<i>Name</i>	<i>Numbers</i>
Elementary School	1
Jr High/Middle School	1
High School	1

Medical and Dental Summary

<i>--Medical Facilities--</i>					
Medical Treatment Facilities	N	Number of Beds	0	Medical Clinic	
Alcohol	N	Allergy	N	Audiology	N
Cardiology	N	Coronary care	N	Dermatology	N
Dietary	N	Emergency room	N	Endocrinology	N
Family Practice	N	General surgery	N	Gynecology	Y
HIV Unit	N	Hematology	N	Immunization	Y
Infect Disease	N	Intensive Care	N	Laboratory	Y
Mental Health	N	Neonatal Intensive Care Unit	N	Nuclear Medicine	N
Nephrology	N	Neurology	N	Neurosurgery	N
Obstetrics	N	Oncology	N	Ophthalmology	N
Optometry	N	Orthopedics	N	Otolaryngology	N
Pathology	N	Pediatrics	N	Physical Therapy	N
Podiatry	N	Primary Care	Y	Radiology	Y
Rheumatology	N	Urology	N		
<i>--Dental Facilities--</i>					
Dental Clinics	1	Adolescent	N	Endodontics	N
General Dentistry	Y	Oral Surgery	N	Orthodontics	N
Pedodontist	N	Periodontics	N		

Relocation and Support Services Summary

<i>--Military Clubs--</i>			
Officers Club	1	Non-Commissioned Officers Club	
Enlisted Club	1		
<i>--Recreation--</i>			
Arts and Crafts	1	Automobile Hobby Centers	1
Bowling Centers	0	Recreational Centers	0
Libraries	1	Music and Theater Locations	1
<i>--Physical Fitness/Sports--</i>			
9 Hole Golf Courses	0	18 Hole Golf Courses	0
Gyms/Physical Fitness Centers	1	Jogging Paths	0
Tennis Clubs/Courts	2	Tennis Courts - Lighted	2
Swimming Pools - Public	1		
<i>--Nature/Outdoor Activities--</i>			
Outdoor Recreation Centers	0	Campgrounds	0
Fishing Areas	0	Horse Stables	0

APPENDIX

Disclaimer

Presentation of direct or indirect links to products, services or vendors does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense. We have provided links to these sites because they have information that may be of interest to our users. These links are presented for informational purposes only. You are encouraged to thoroughly investigate and evaluate items of interest prior to entering into contractual obligations.